TETSUYA TSUTSUI

PROPHECY

02

TETSUYA TSUTSUI
PROPHECY
02

CONTENTS

File008 3

File009 35

File010 67

File011 97

File012 119

File013 149

File014 173

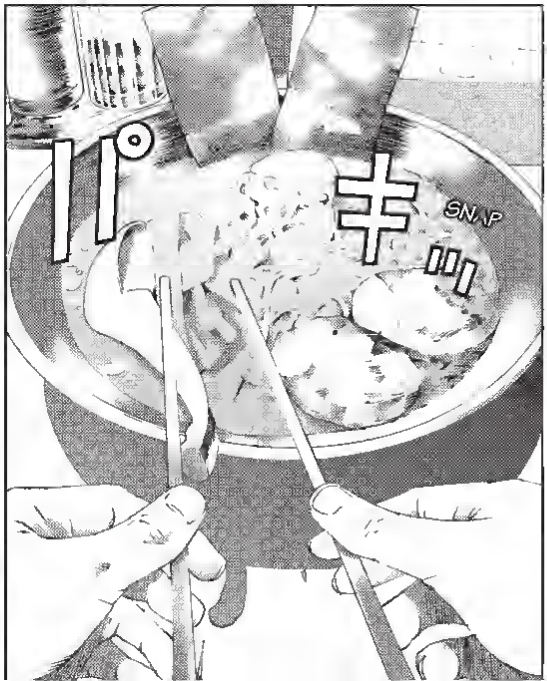
* This is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to persons, groups, or events is purely coincidental.

File 008

May 26, 12:30
K CITY, IWATE PREFECTURE

One soy flavor with egg, coming up!
Takamura Ramen
Welcome, sir!

Mm...
Urgh
This place is definitely tops for soy sauce ramen.


SNAP

Huh ...?
Why ...?
Ex-cuse me.
Please help yourself to this as well.
G-Gyo ...
B-But... D...
Uh, but...
No, I...
*He's trying to say: "But I didn't order any gyoza."
Since you come here all the time,
they're on the house!

Th...
Tha...
Um...
Th...
BLUSH
You old timers need to go on a diet!
That's sweet of you, Kaede.
How 'bout freebies for us?
We deserve a bonus for perfect attendance, too!
...
Ain't that the truth!
HA HA HA HA
BWA HA HA!
If you shrink those bellies, then we'll talk!

There I go again ...
A real, 3D woman speaks to me out of the blue,
and I get so nervous I can't even speak.
I get myself all worked up
that I can't spit out what I want to say
and all that comes out is a garbled moan.
She must think I'm a total creep...
Well, guess I'm no good as a person to begin with...
Couldn't even say "thank you."

Kaede!
Your customer is leaving!
Uh, th... (...ank you for the lovely meal.)
KLATTER
SLIDE
THUP
THUP
Please come again!
Thank you very much, sir!

Th...
Thank ... you...
...I said it.
I actually said it...
I said "Thank you" ...
KRUMMMM
So her name's Kaede...
She's so nice.

May 26, 13:15
I HOTEL, K CITY, IWATE PREFECTURE
Ah...
Crap!
Kimura.
Can you please get your act together?
Cleaning a guest room is a 2-person job.
How many times I gotta say it before it sinks in?
You come in late and you alone catch hell for it, fine,
but I end up gettin' burned, too.
I...
I'm sorry.
Kimura

I'm sorry ...
Geez, kids these days ...
Can't greet people properly, can't keep a schedule.
Kimura
1802
1802 ...
So this is it.
...
VRRRRR...
Oh!
VRRRR...
Kimura
スッ...
SLIP
KLIK
KLIK
Hello ?
Yes ?

The police ?
Wha ...
Toshiaki certainly is my son...
Yes...
Yes ...
Yeah.
SLIDE
CLAK
...
Oh ...
Really ?
I can handle this room myself, if you...
Uh... Ms. Yoko-yama.

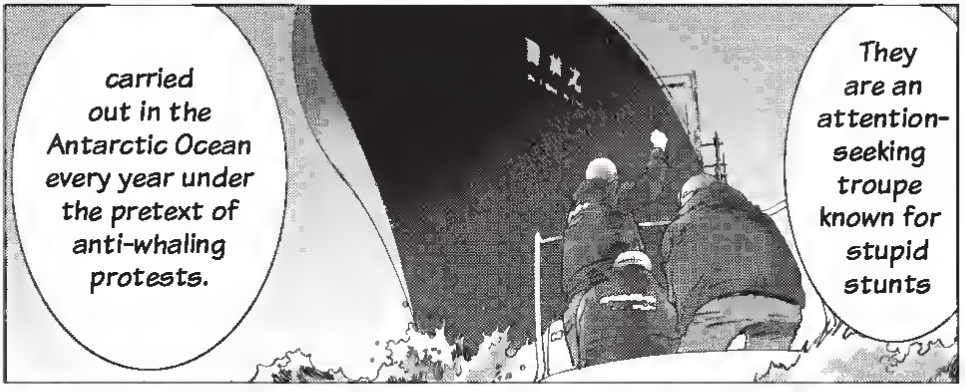
Now then ...
YANK
P- Please, If you could.
I'll be right back. Thank you.
Then make device invisible
Register Bluetooth device ...
by running the .exe file, he said.
KLIK
KLAK
Kimura

complete
OK
Once it says "complete"
use the cleaner to delete the history of recently-used files.
And then shut-down.
Did that do it ?
This is it.
Here.
Now, the smartphone charging cable should be somewhere...
KLATTER
SQUEEZE

Every-thing's done.
All right.
Nobita
Prep work done
Gates
Roger
Themes
Messages
Select
Submenu
Call Out
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
SNAP

Shall I begin ?
Now then ...
TWIST
CHI-K
Here is my warning for tomor-row.

PROTECTORS of the SEA
"Sea Guard-ian."
The target this time is the environ-mentalist group,


carried out in the Antarctic Ocean every year under the pretext of anti-whaling protests.
They are an attention-seeking troupe known for stupid stunts

they posted messages like this:
But when they saw footage of the aftermath of the March 2011 tsunami,

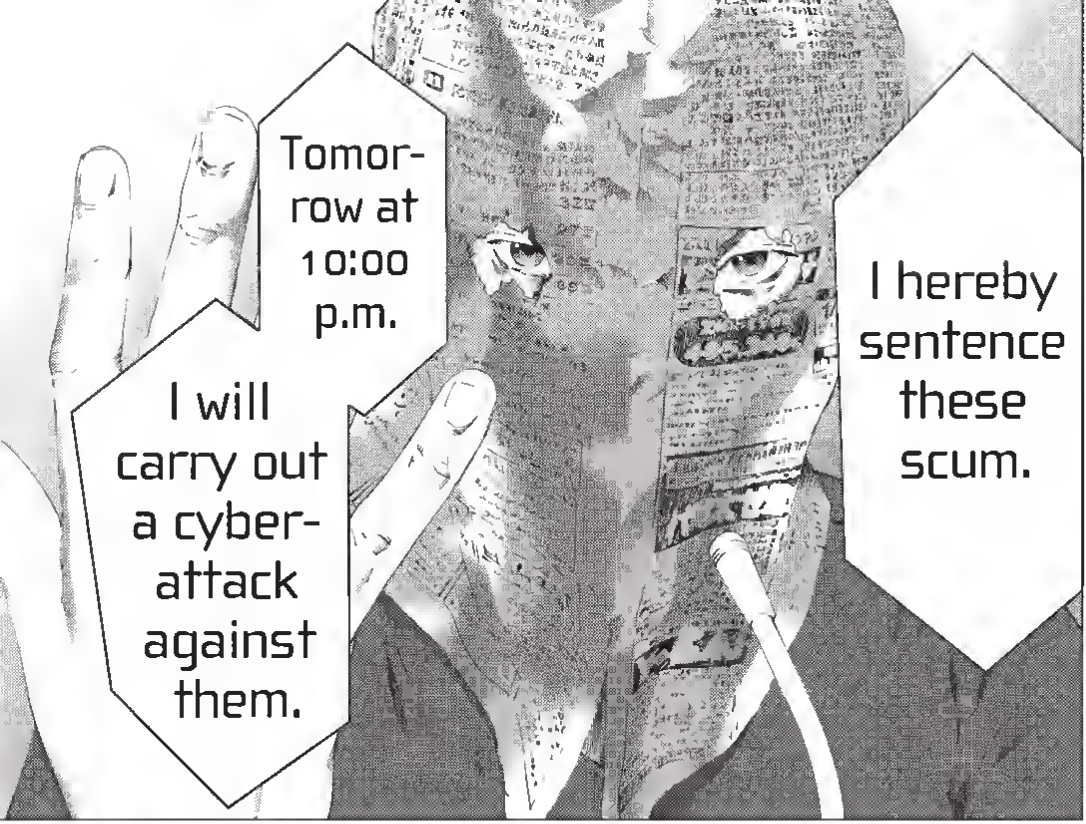
Listen to the angry voice of Neptune!

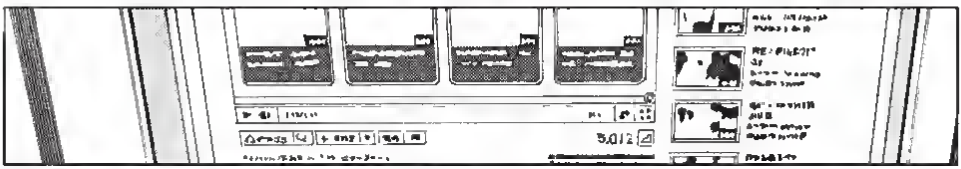
It serves the Japanese people right!
It's punishment for killing dolphins!

Today is a wonderful day.
I hope that this opportunity will be used by the Japanese people to repent for their barbaric actions.

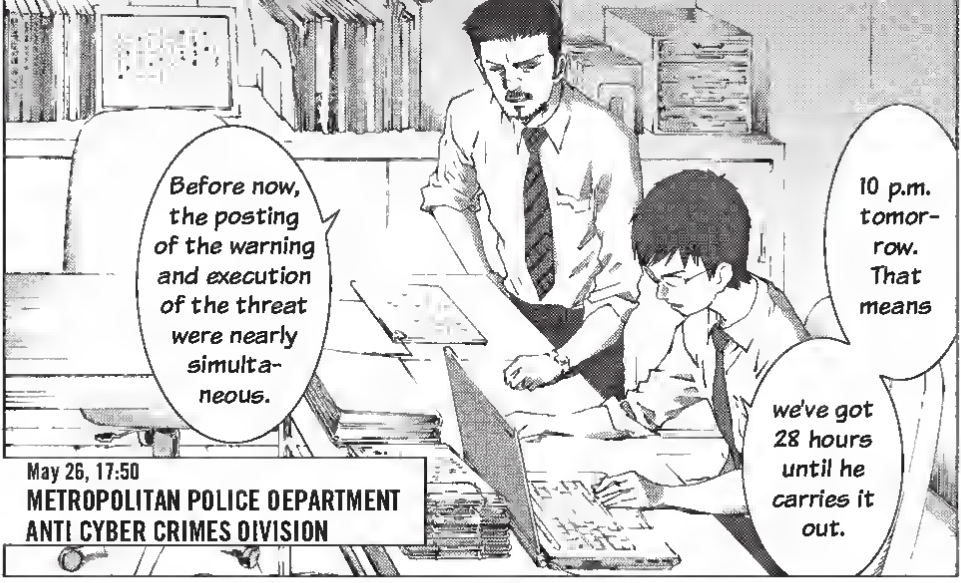
It's a terrible image...
But there is no doubt that KARMA created by killing dolphins brought about this disaster.

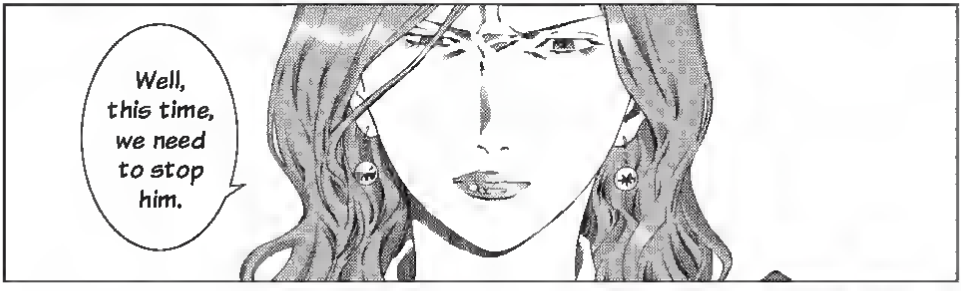
Sea Guardian Environ-mentalist Group.
They turned to the victims of the tsunami and gleefully said,
"That's divine punish-ment."


I hereby sentence these scum.
I will carry out a cyber-attack against them.
Tomor-row at 10:00 p.m.

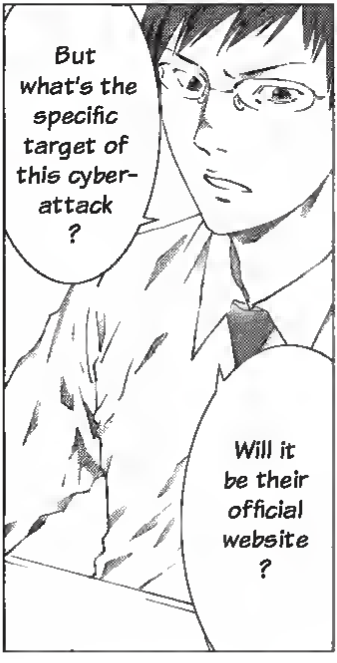


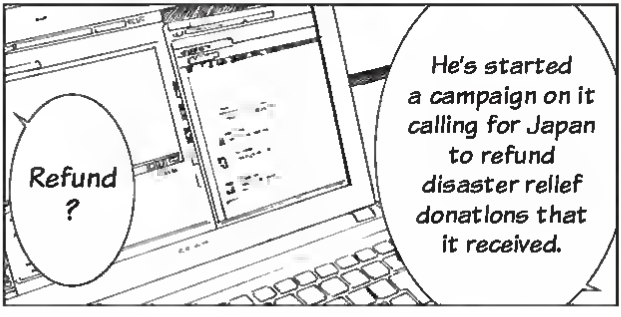
So it's a cyber-attack this time...

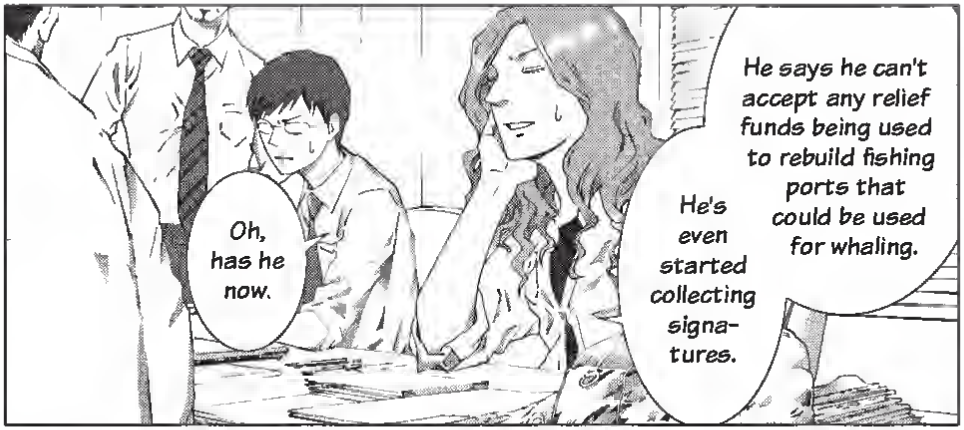

Before now, the posting of the warning and execution of the threat were nearly simulta-neous.
10 p.m. tomor-row. That means
we've got 28 hours until he carries it out.
May 26, 17:50
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANTI CYBER CRIMES DIVISION

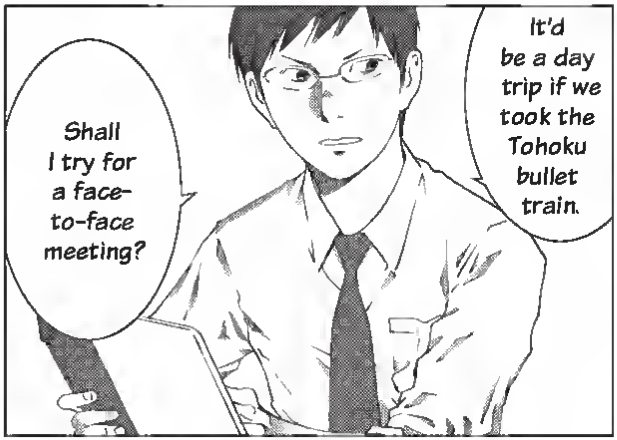

Well, this time, we need to stop him.

is the personal blog of their spokesman, Bob Parker.
The Sea Guardian-related site that's had a sudden surge in traffic

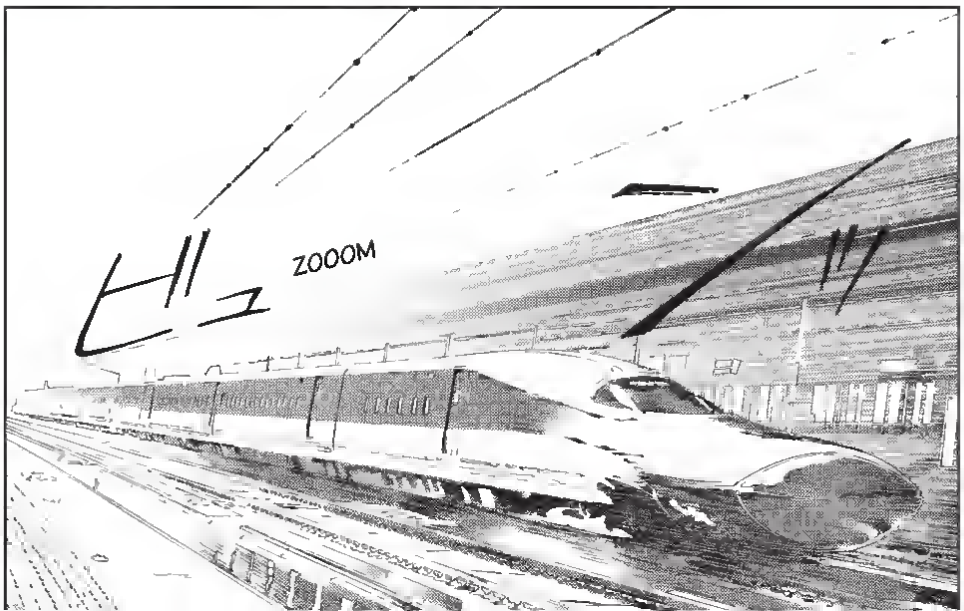

But what's the specific target of this cyber-attack ?
Will it be their official website ?


Refund ?
He's started a campaign on it calling for Japan to refund disaster relief donations that it received.


Oh, has he now.
He's even started collecting signatures.
He says he can't accept any relief funds being used to rebuild fishing ports that could be used for whaling.


Shall I try for a face-to-face meeting?
It'd be a day trip if we took the Tohoku bullet train.

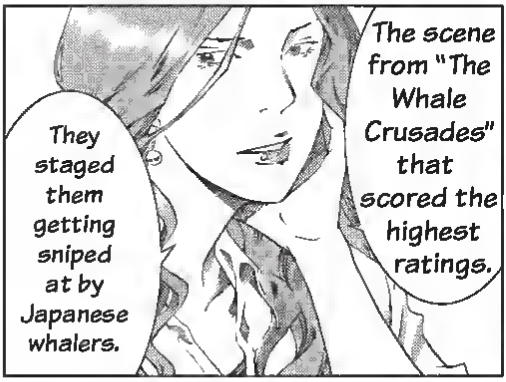
They're staying at a hotel in Iwate Prefecture.
He and some members are in Japan now.


ZOOOM

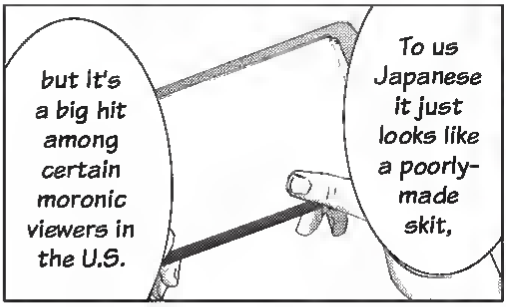
Their spokesman is 64-year-old Canadian Bob Parker.
An environmental group whose radical stunts earn them donations from around the world.
Sea Guardian.
against whaling ships in the Antarctic, they've become famous worldwide.
THE WHALE CRUSADES
And with the documentary program "The Whale Crusades," which follows their obstructionist activities
to call this a documentary!
It's a bit too farcical

...
What is this ...?

Shit! Look what those bastards have done!

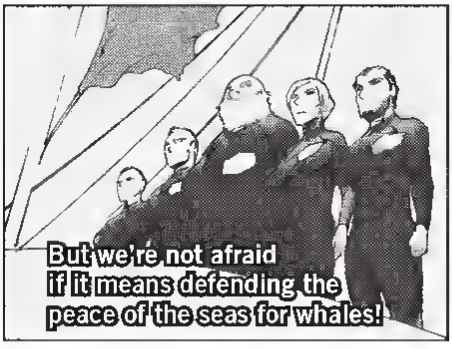

The scene from "The Whale Crusades" that scored the highest ratings.
They staged them getting sniped at by Japanese whalers.

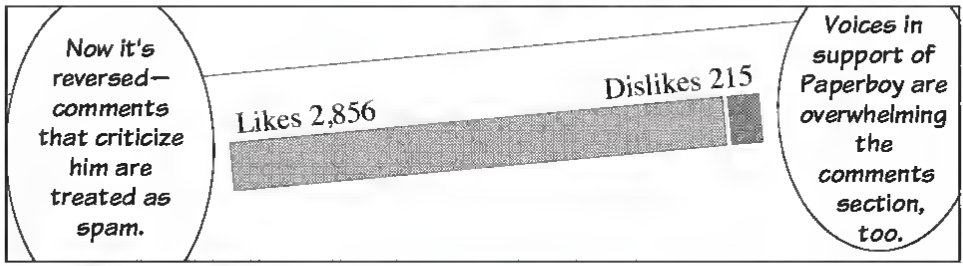
He's been shot!
The captain's been shot!


To us Japanese it just looks like a poorly-made skit,
but it's a big hit among certain moronic viewers in the U.S.

If I hadn't been wearing a bulletproof vest, I would've lost my life then.

And now we're supposed to guard these people ?


But we're not afraid if it means defending the peace of the seas for whales!


Now it's reversed—comments that criticize him are treated as spam.
Likes 2,856
Dislikes 215
Voices in support of Paperboy are overwhelming the comments section, too.

Paperboy says it like it is!

Seriously, they're a cancer on the earth

Those nouveau riche Hollywood hypocrites support these kinds of people don't they?

Shut the fuck up...

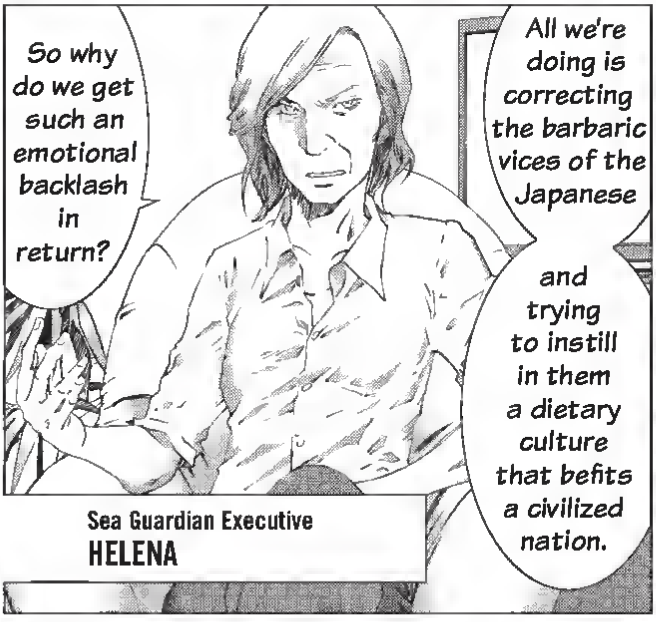
This comment has been flagged as spa

Sea Guardian is going about it all wron
Their existence discredits the people ou
there actually trying to tackle environme
problems

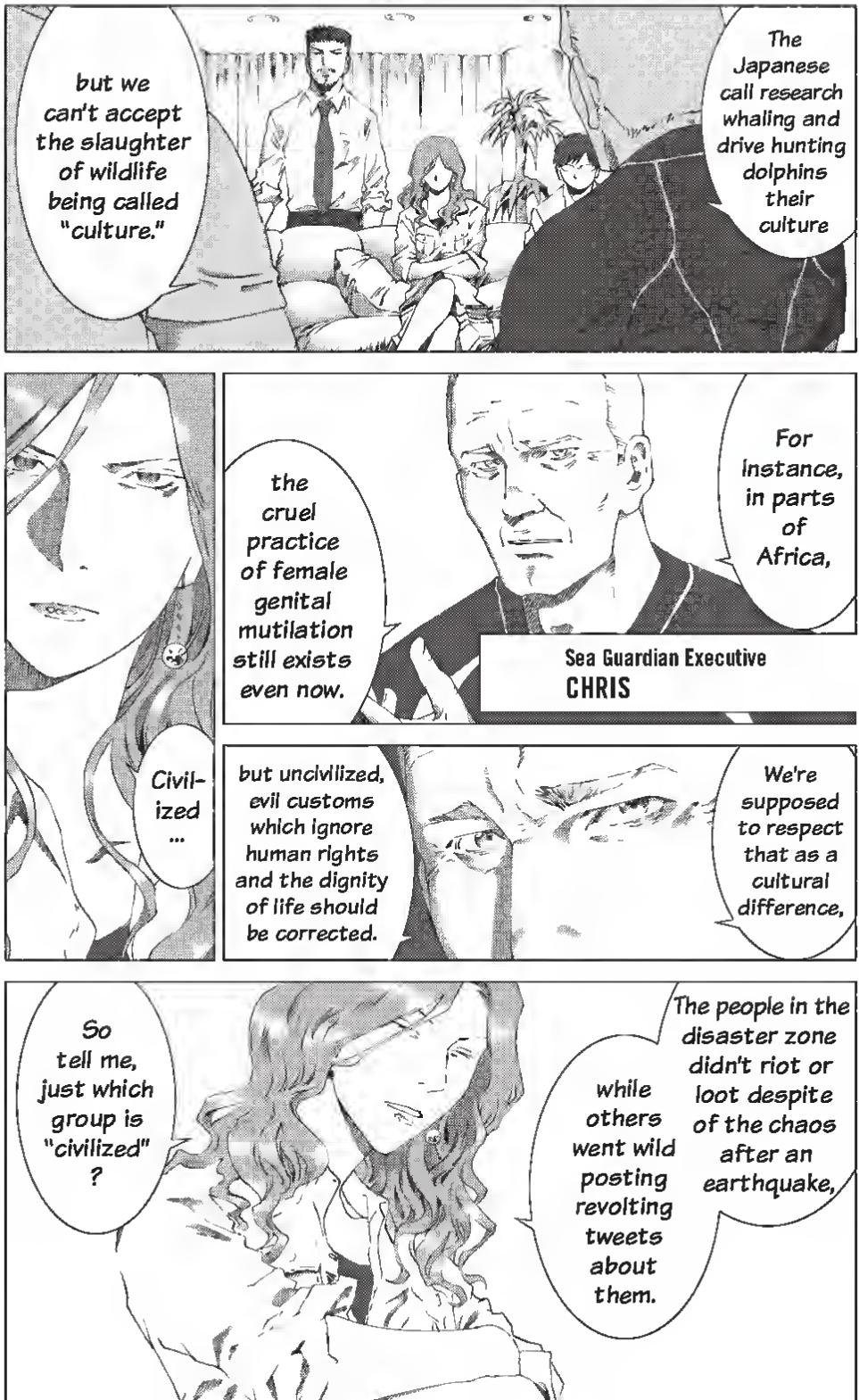
Don't tell me the Japanese police are actually thinking about giving these peop
protection?

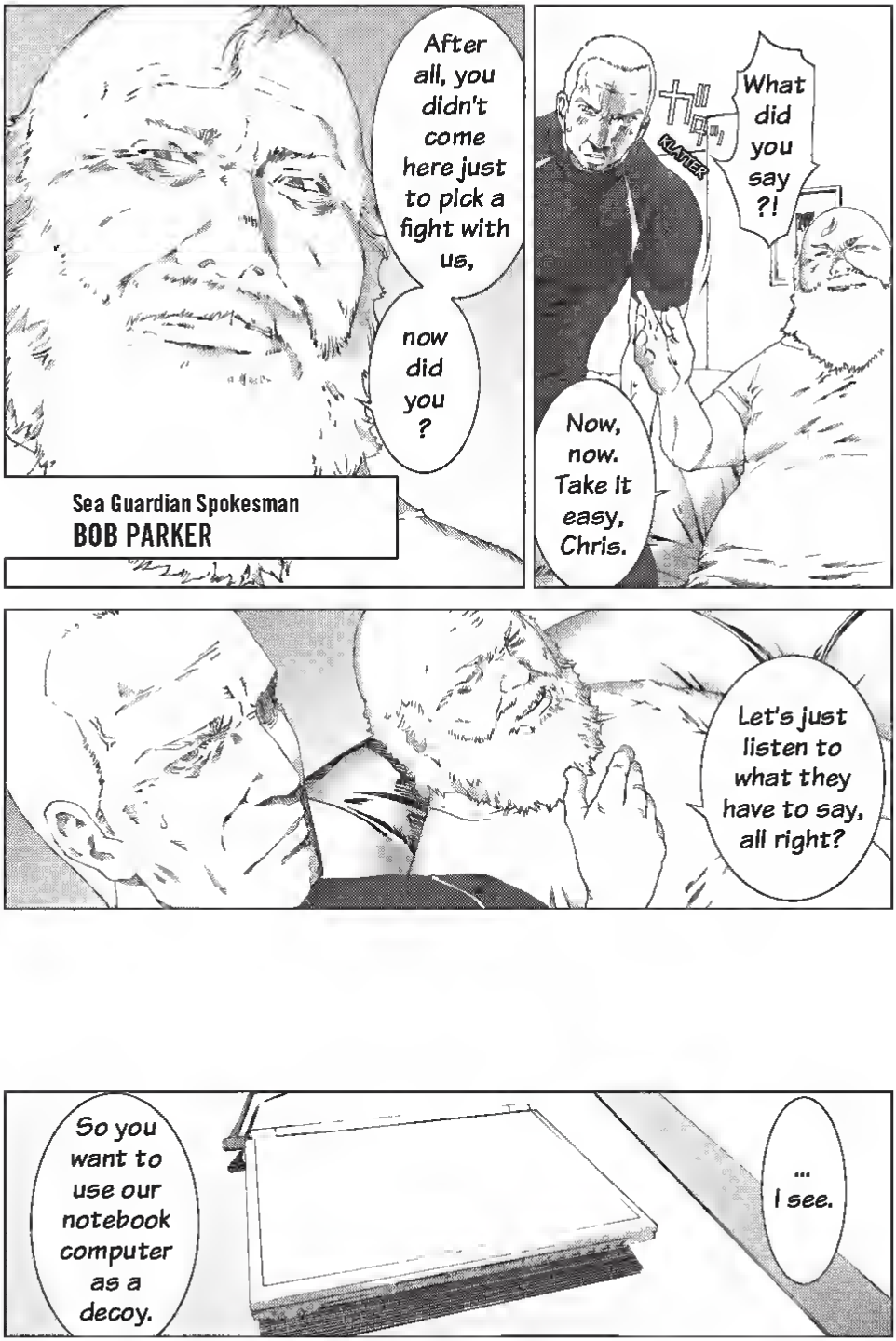
May 27, 11:30
I HOTEL, K CITY, IWATE PREFECTURE

"Racist frauds" ...
"Hypo-crites."
"Shame-less."

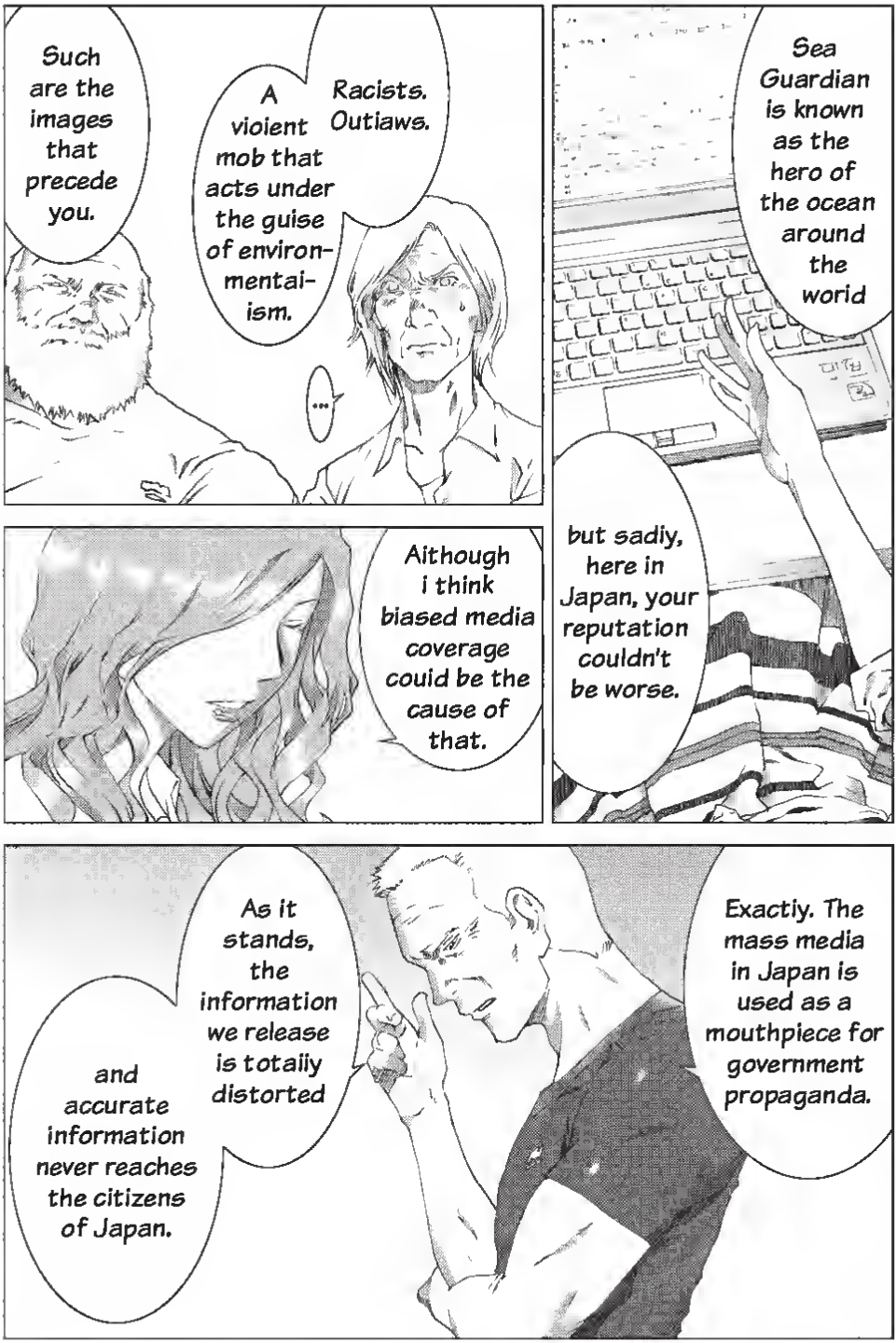

So why do we get such an emotional backlash in return?
All we're doing is correcting the barbaric vices of the Japanese
and trying to instill in them a dietary culture that befits a civilized nation.
Sea Guardian Executive
HELENA

11°
CLOSE
This is why I can't bring myself to like the Japanese.

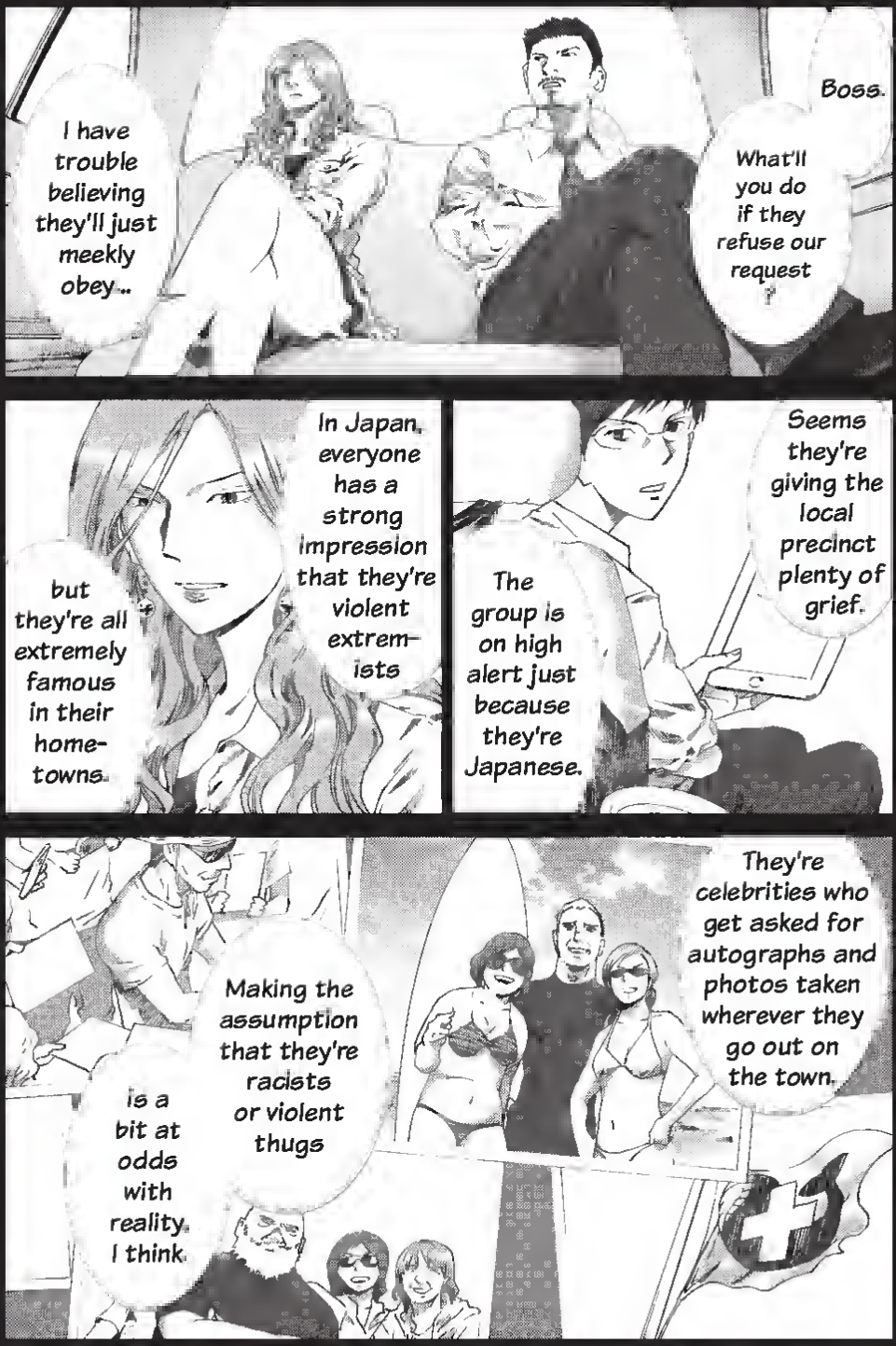

but we can't accept the slaughter of wildlife being called "culture."
The Japanese call research whaling and drive hunting dolphins their culture
Civil-ized ...
the cruel practice of female genital mutilation still exists even now.
For instance, in parts of Africa,
Sea Guardian Executive
CHRIS
but uncivilized, evil customs which ignore human rights and the dignity of life should be corrected.
We're supposed to respect that as a cultural difference,
So tell me, just which group is "civilized" ?
while others went wild posting revolting tweets about them.
The people in the disaster zone didn't riot or loot despite of the chaos after an earthquake,


After all, you didn't come here just to pick a fight with us,
now did you ?
Sea Guardian Spokesman
BOB PARKER
What did you say ?!
KLATTER
Now, now. Take it easy, Chris.
Let's just listen to what they have to say, all right?
So you want to use our notebook computer as a decoy.
... I see.

If you use a cloud service, temporarily suspend your account.
Please backup all the data and keep the machine offline.
Why do we have to do all this?
Hold up a minute.
At 10:00 tonight, bring the PC loaded with dummy data online
and set it to standby. That will suffice.
WILL YOU CO-OPERATE WITH US?
SO THAT A COWARDLY TERRORIST CAN BE CAUGHT.


Such are the images that precede you.
A violent mob that acts under the guise of environmentalism.
Racists. Outlaws.
...
Although i think biased media coverage could be the cause of that.
Sea Guardian is known as the hero of the ocean around the world
but sadly, here in Japan, your reputation couldn't be worse.
As it stands, the information we release is totally distorted
and accurate information never reaches the citizens of Japan.
Exactly. The mass media in Japan is used as a mouthpiece for government propaganda.

if you help us apprehend the terrorist in this operation without mishap,
this may be the chance for your renown
as heroes of the seas to become properly appreciated in Japan.
It is, so to speak,
an online crusade.
Hm mm ...
A crusade ...
That's our boss ...
Just as she planned it.

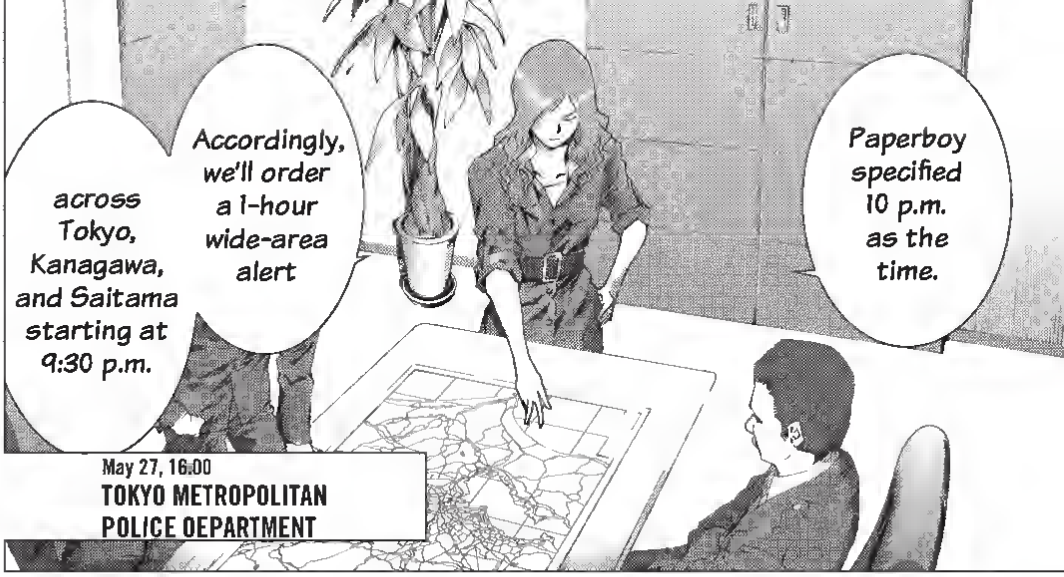

I have trouble believing they'll just meekly obey...
Boss.
What'll you do if they refuse our request?
In Japan, everyone has a strong impression that they're violent extremists
but they're all extremely famous in their hometowns.
The group is on high alert just because they're Japanese.
Seems they're giving the local precinct plenty of grief.
They're celebrities who get asked for autographs and photos taken wherever they go out on the town.
Making the assumption that they're racists or violent thugs
is a bit at odds with reality, I think.

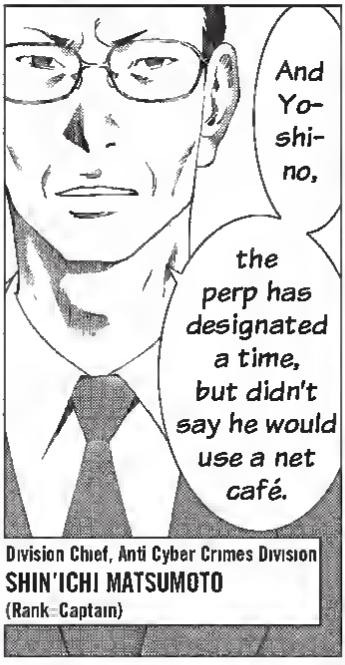
Is that what they are?
Heroes of justice, protecting marine life from the greedy Japanese.
They're quite naïve, playing that role 24 hours a day.
He's twice divorced.
Word is he's currently seeing a blonde ex-model 30 years his junior.
So if we play to their vanity disguised as heroism,
It might take the edge off their wariness.
Also, their spokesman, Bob Parker.
He has a weak point.
So what?
OK...
he's a simple womanizer.
In a word...

we'd like to put you under around-the-clock protection.
... And so, to ensure everyone's safety,
What do you say?
SHFF
I think it merits consider-ation...
Hmm.

PROPHECY

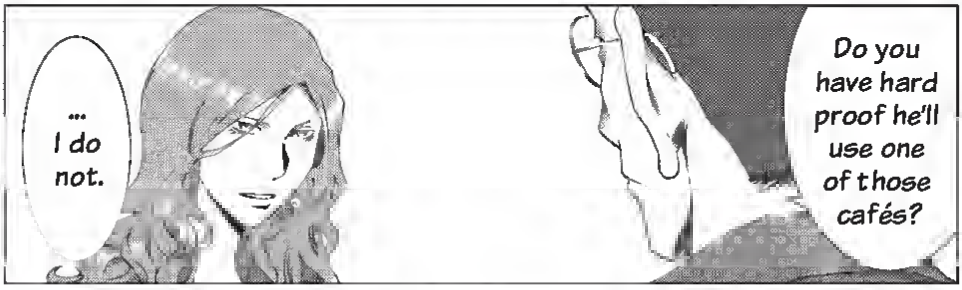
File
009


Paperboy specified 10 p.m. as the time.
Accordingly, we'll order a 1-hour wide-area alert
across Tokyo, Kanagawa, and Saitama starting at 9:30 p.m.
May 27, 16:00
TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT


And Yo-shi-no,
the perp has designated a time, but didn't say he would use a net café.
Division Chief, Anti Cyber Crimes Division
SHIN'ICHI MATSUMOTO
(Rank: Captain)

300-man set-up?
That's huge.
Senior Superintendent
KOTARO TAKAGI

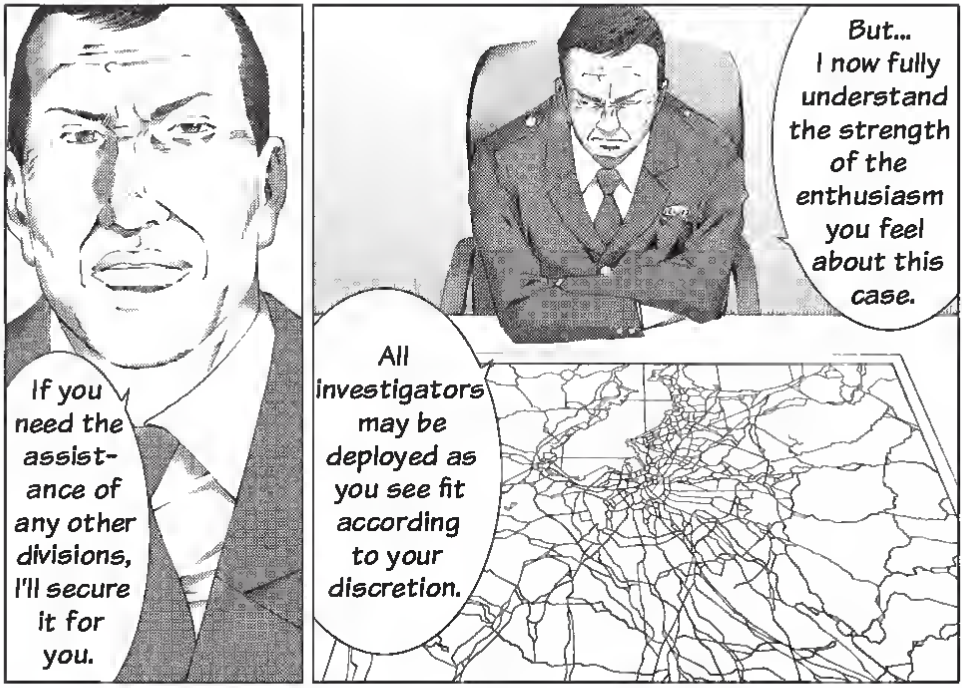
We'll place 3 agents in each of the 25 Pit Boy Group locations
and call in 10 officers each from the local precincts in those regions.


Do you have hard proof he'll use one of those cafés?
... I do not.

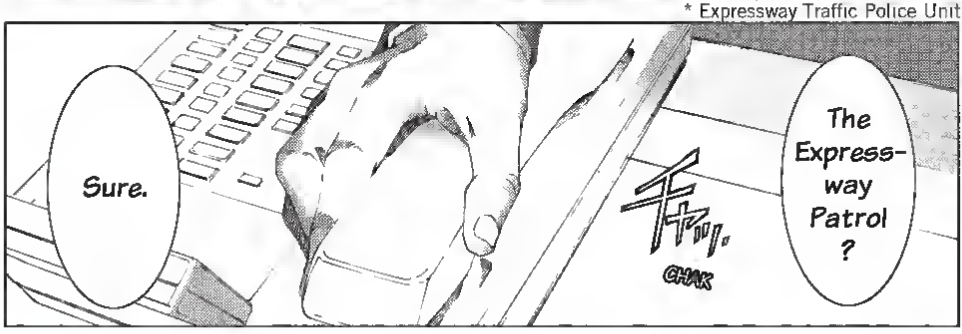
I think he's somehow gotten ahold of a membership card
that he can use to handily mask his identity.
But up to now, the perp has consistently used a Pit Boy café
to post every single one of his warning videos.
On top of that, I think
that he uses those cafés for a specific purpose.
Yoshino, I'm afraid
I can't mobilize 300 people based on hunches and guesses.
Is this one of your hunches?
Yes.

Please let me take command.
I will take full responsibility.
If this were to end in a misfire after deploying so many,
it could become a liability issue for the brass.
I intend to stake my career
on this operation.

Yes.
If we don't apprehend the perp in this oper-ation
I'll turn in my badge.
Your career ...?
Yo-shino, no.
There's no need to go so far...
...
Yoshino, you shouldn't talk of turning in your badge so flippantly.
I don't find such methods of taking responsibility to be brave.

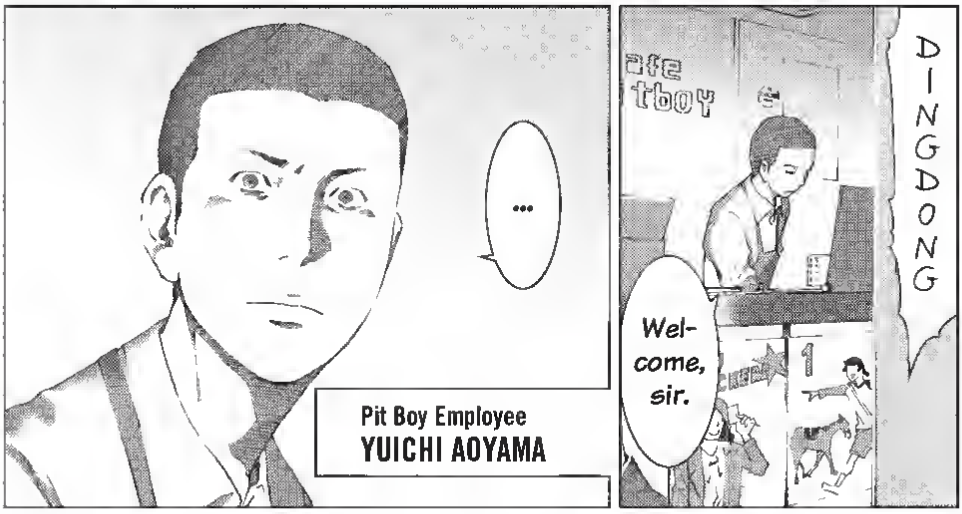

If you need the assistance of any other divisions, I'll secure it for you.
All investigators may be deployed as you see fit according to your discretion.
But... I now fully understand the strength of the enthusiasm you feel about this case.

* Expressway Traffic Police Unit



May 27, 19:10
TOKYO, MS TOWN

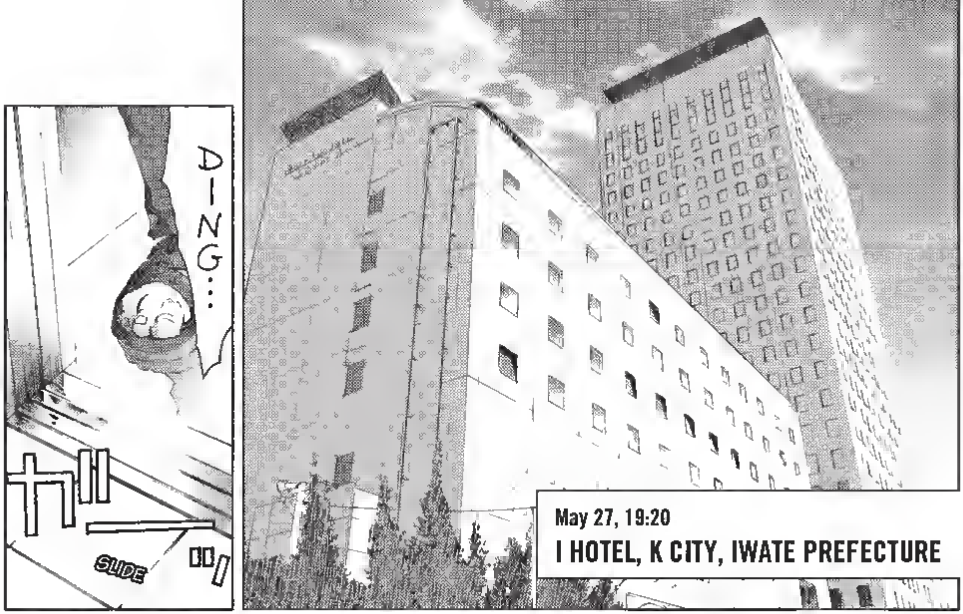
net cafe
Pitboy


...
Pit Boy Employee
YUICHI AOYAMA
DINGDONG
Wel-
come,
sir.

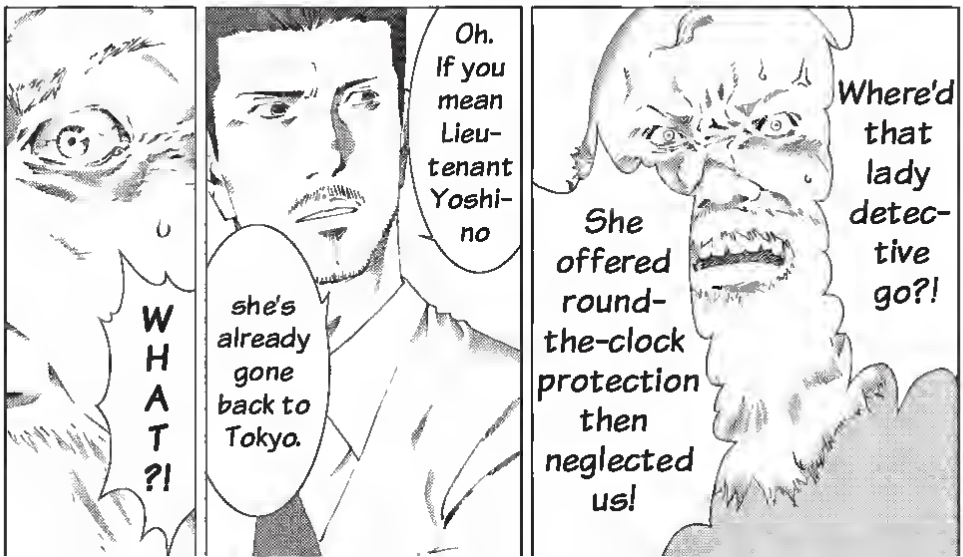
D...
Do you have a... membership card?
Play Pachinko Here!
A night pack, please.
Reclining seat booth.
BEEP
Nelsin Kato-Ricarte
Here.
Th-Thank you very much.

...
The drink bar is behind the counter to the left. Please help yourself.
IF YOU SEE THI
MAN CALL 91
Uhm...
The night pack is 1700 yen for 6 hours.
Additional time will incur an extra charge of 100 yen for each 15-minute extension.
I know all that. It's fine.
No...
If you require a blanket or pillow—
My apologies ...
M...

to reclining seat booth #43.
Reclining Seat Booth NO.43
Well then, let me show you
...
...
Thanks.
R.I.P
IF YOU SEE THIS MAN CALL 911

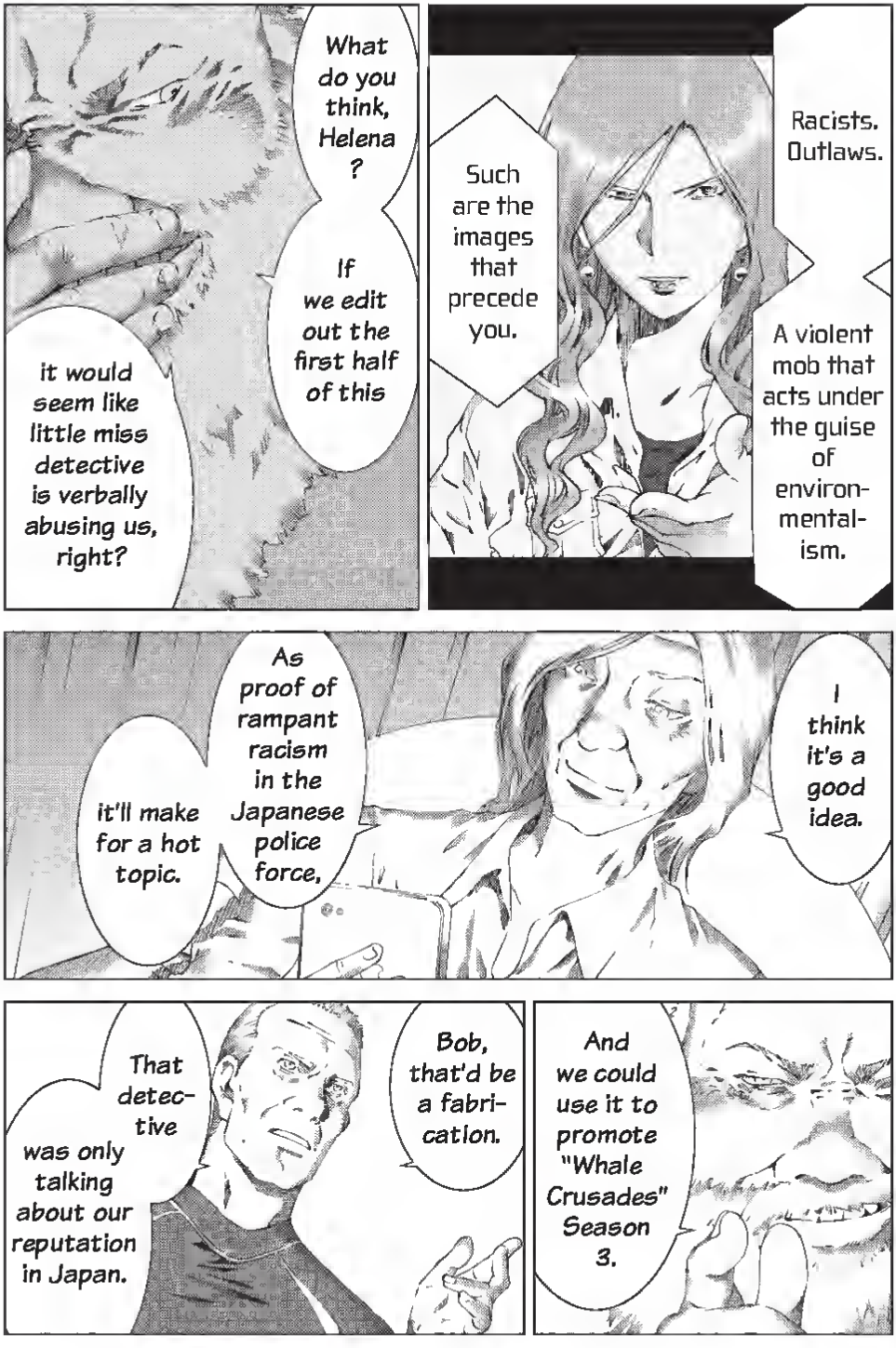

DING...
SLIDE
May 27, 19:20
I HOTEL, K CITY, IWATE PREFECTURE

I'll be here until 10 tonight.
Uh ...
Just how long are you planning to stay ?
Hey! You there !
ドスドス
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP


WHAT?!
she's already gone back to Tokyo.
Oh. If you mean Lieu-tenant Yoshi-no
She offered round-the-clock protection then neglected us!
Where'd that lady detec-tive go?!

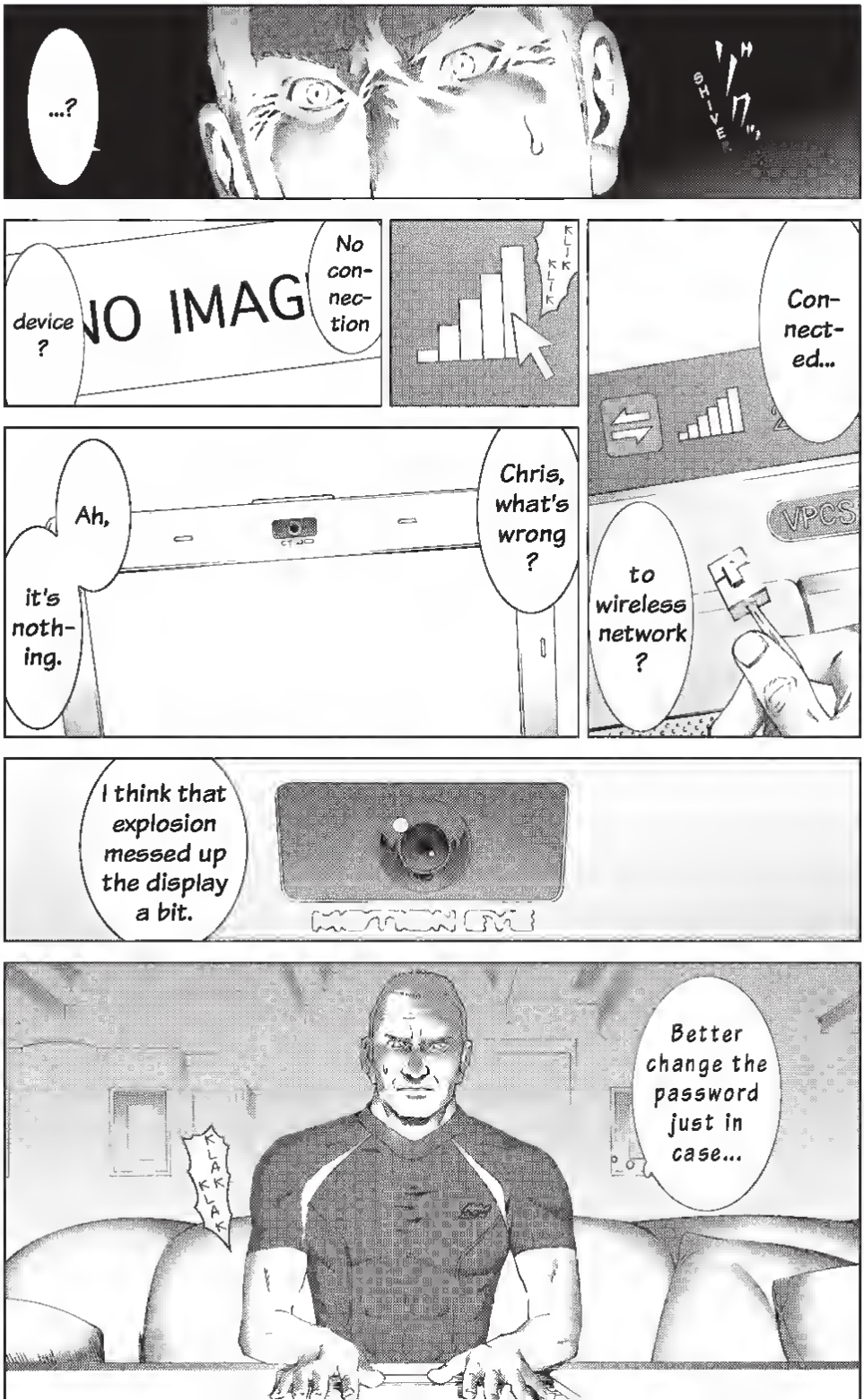
THAT'S DEFINITELY WHAT SHE SAID !
...
This isn't what we were promised !!
What the hell is going on?!
POLICE
Since I'm a cop, too,
I don't think there's been any mistake.
FLUSH
SHAME
SHAME
...!
No... lis- ten,
I'm sure she told you that we police would protect you.
1802
SLAM

What's wrong, Bob?
You look grim.
HUFF
HUFF
Fuckin' Japan-ese bastards ...
bip
bip
I'll show ya...!
You wanna see what happens when people piss me off?
Heh ...
Heh heh ...
I thought this might happen
so I recorded every word that lady detective said.
Sea Guardian is known as the hero of the ocean around the world
but sadly, here in Japan, your reputation couldn't be worse.
BEEP
711s

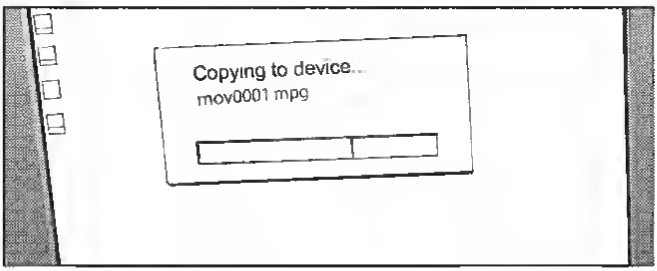

What do you think, Helena?
If we edit out the first half of this
it would seem like little miss detective is verbally abusing us, right?
Such are the images that precede you.
Racists. Outlaws.
A violent mob that acts under the guise of environmentalism.
As proof of rampant racism in the Japanese police force,
it'll make for a hot topic.
I think it's a good idea.
That detective was only talking about our reputation in Japan.
Bob, that'd be a fabrication.
And we could use it to promote "Whale Crusades" Season 3.

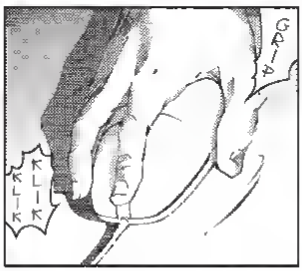
TAP
TAP
I'll show that stuck-up lady detective that we're way ahead of them when it comes to using the media!
The genuineness of the information is irrelevant.
We use whatever we can.
That's how we operate.
KCHK
OK, let's hurry up and edit it.
Heh heh.
...?
Genius Mix
PLAY LIST
Hey, Helena, it's...
H...
It's not recognizing it.
... That's odd.

Look out!
PTCH
THE HELL IS GOING ON?!
Wha?! What's going on?!
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
Shit! Aw, damn it!
The audio file!
HISS
BANG
AAGH!!
Chris.
Is the computer okay?
Yeah.
No issues here...
Let's use Skype to contact HQ.
What rotten luck.
Must've been a bad battery.

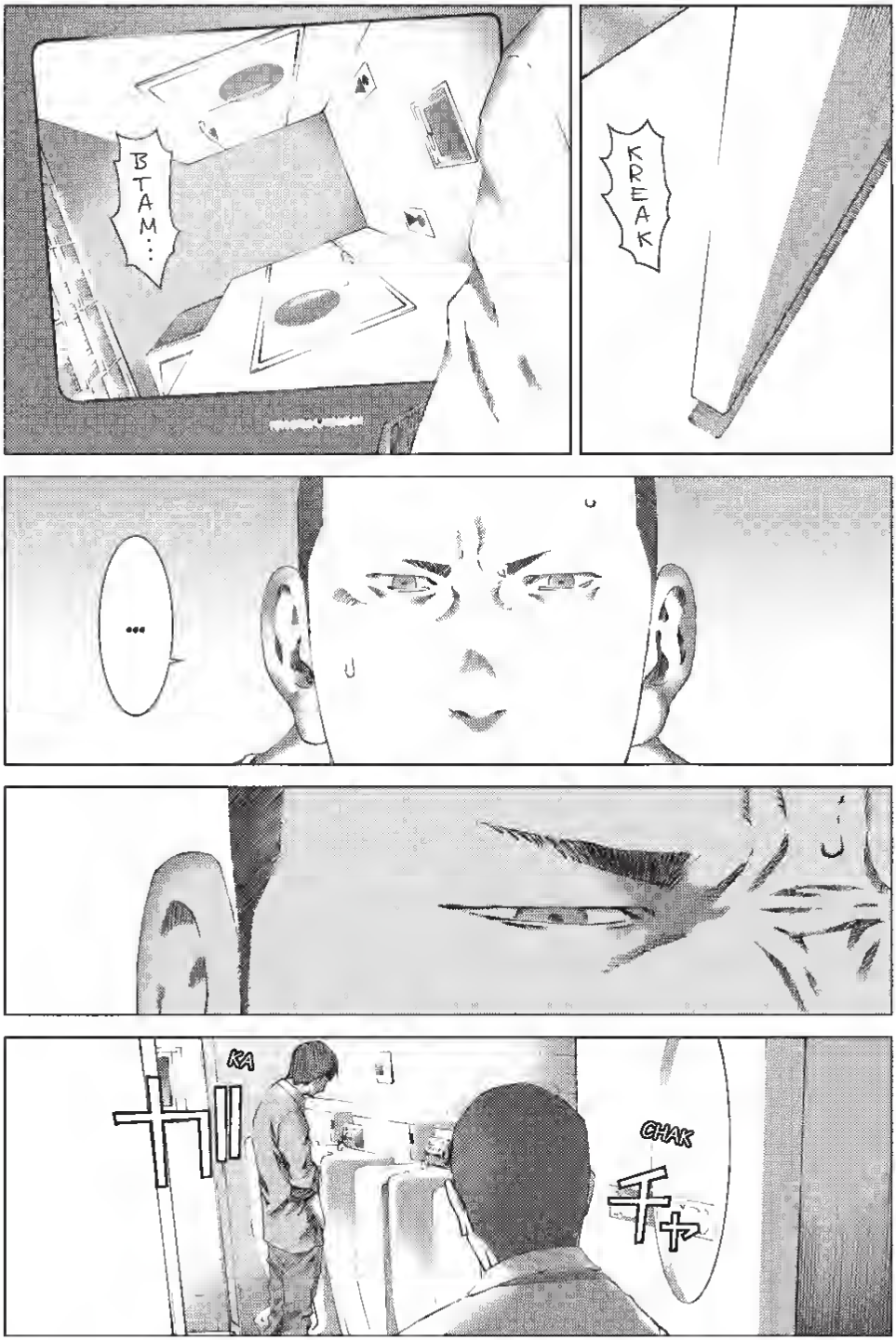

...?
SHIVER
device ?
NO IMAG
No con-nec-tion
KLIK KLIK
Con-nect-ed...
VPCS
to wireless network ?
Chris, what's wrong ?
Ah, it's noth-ing.
I think that explosion messed up the display a bit.
KLAKLAK
Better change the password just in case...

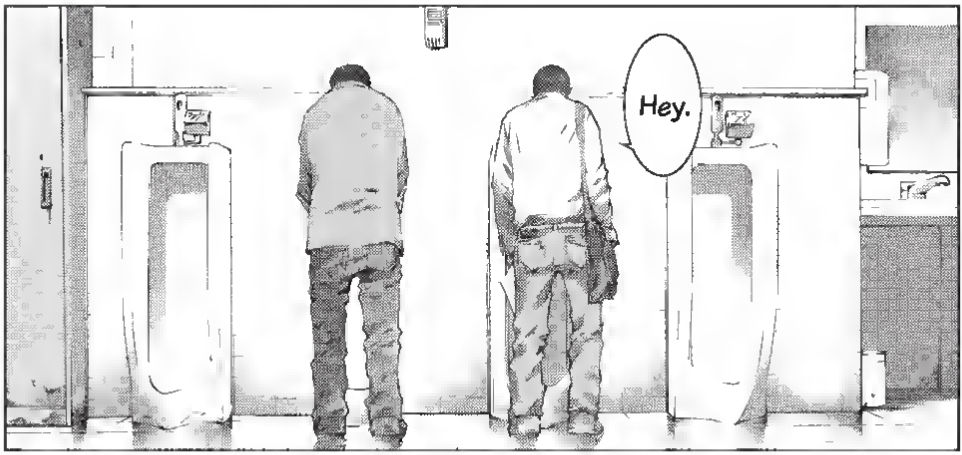
Now I can breathe a little easier.
...All right.

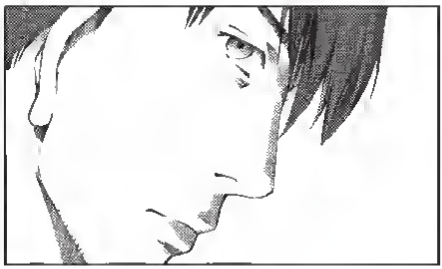

Copying to device...
mov0001.mpg


GAIA
KLIK
KLIK

Now I can breathe a little easier.
Yeah.


BTAM…
KREAK
…
KA
CHAK


Hey.



You're ...
Paper-boy, aren't you?

TOKOROZAWA
STATION
May 27, 21:30
T CITY, SAITAMA PREFECTURE

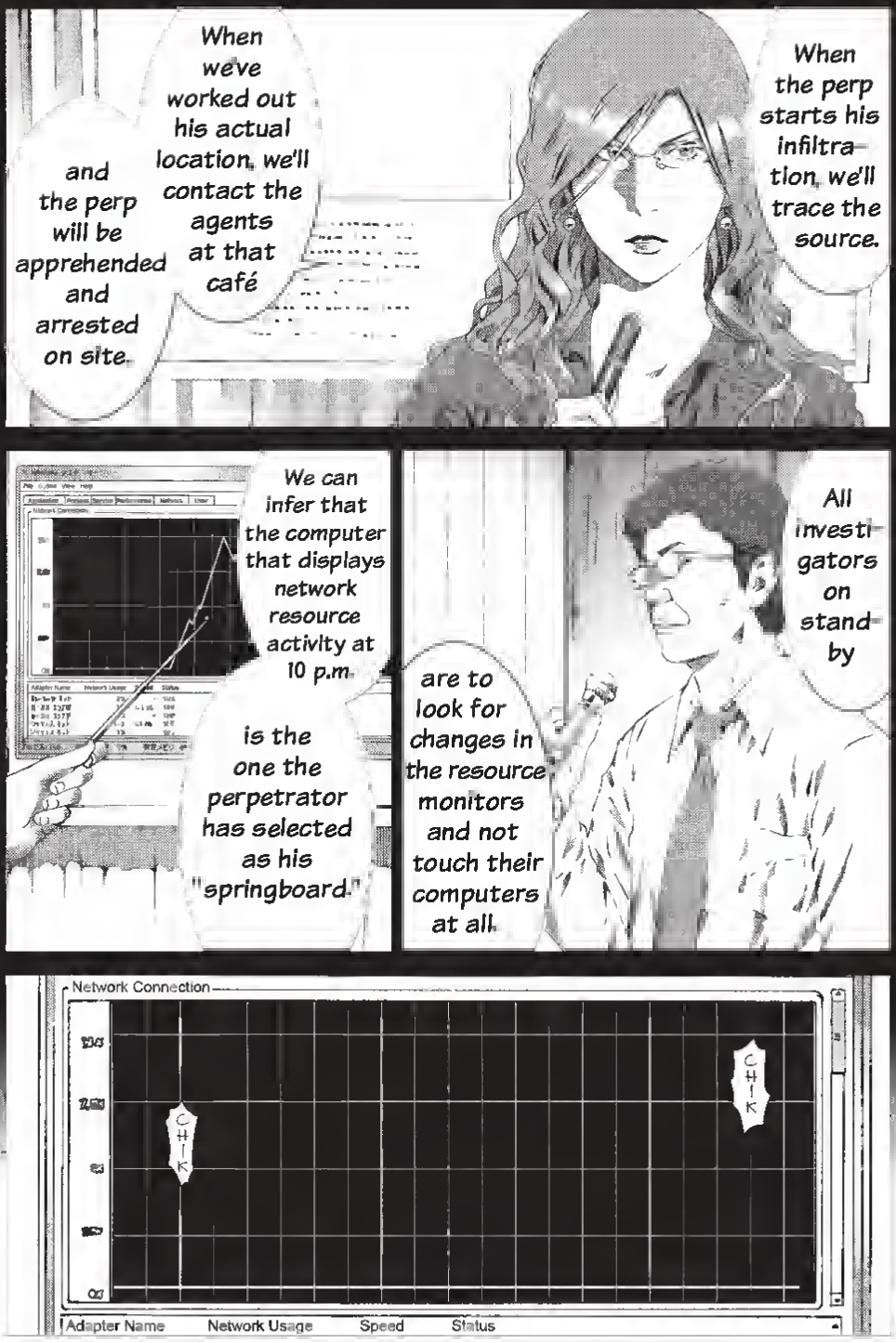
slrrp
...

At times like this
nothing beats green tea.
WA
ほっ
RM
こり
Mm...

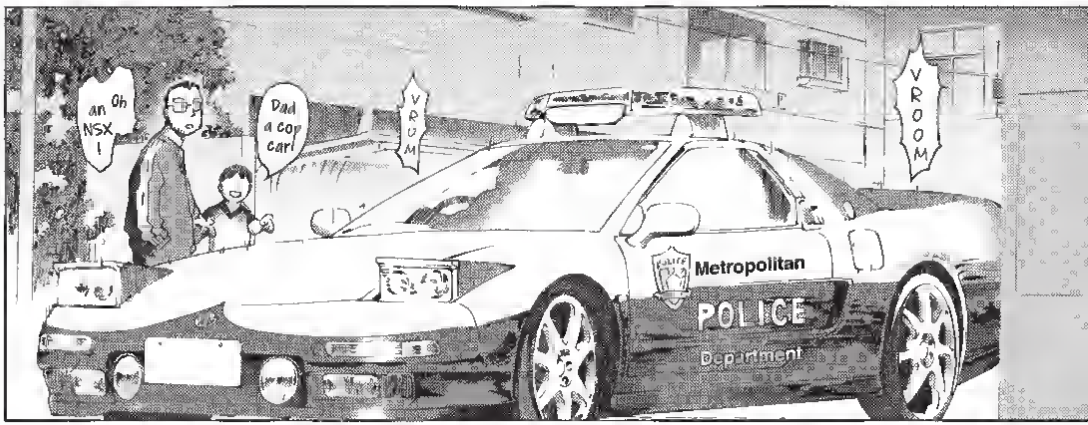
of JPK Network in the execution of this operation.
We've secured the full coop-eration
30 min-utes to go ...

security operations for the Pit Boy Group's internet cafés.
JPK Network is the company contracted to handle
To prep for this operation
making it appear that there are 3 vacant booths in each café.
we will temporarily manipulate the usage data in all 25 Pit Boy locations
Then we'll wait until 10 p.m.
for our perp to hack the computer in one of the "vacant" booths we've secured, and use it as a "spring-board."*
MPD investigators will be placed in each of those booths
and all remaining booths will be marked "in use."

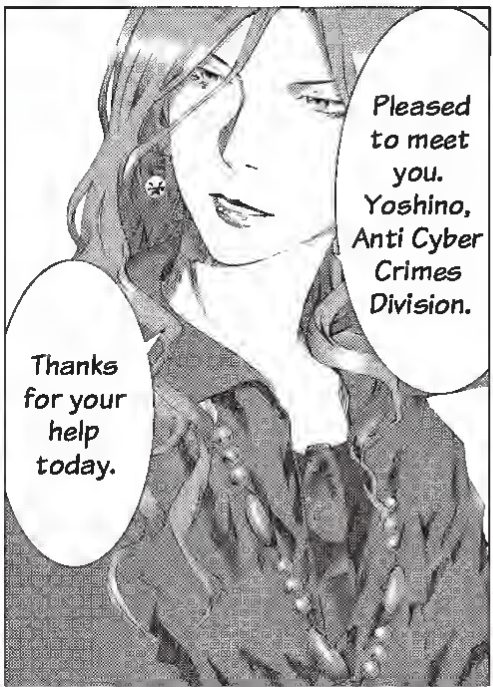
* A computer used as a relay point to conduct unlawful activity with another computer.

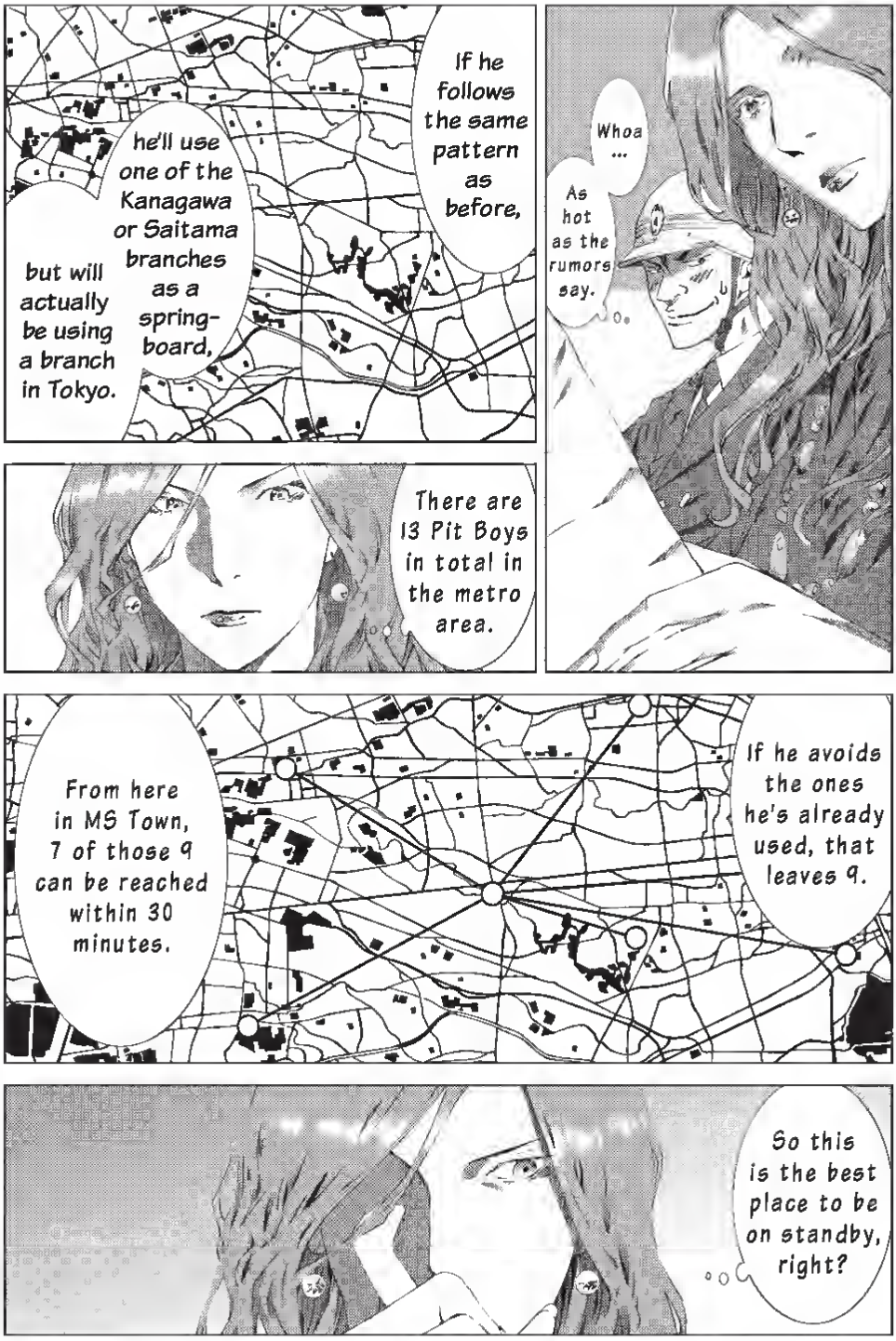

When the perp starts his infiltration, we'll trace the source.
When we've worked out his actual location, we'll contact the agents at that café
and the perp will be apprehended and arrested on site.
We can infer that the computer that displays network resource activity at 10 p.m.
is the one the perpetrator has selected as his "springboard."
All investigators on standby
are to look for changes in the resource monitors and not touch their computers at all.
Network Connection
CHIK
CHIK
Adapter Name
Network Usage
Speed
Status

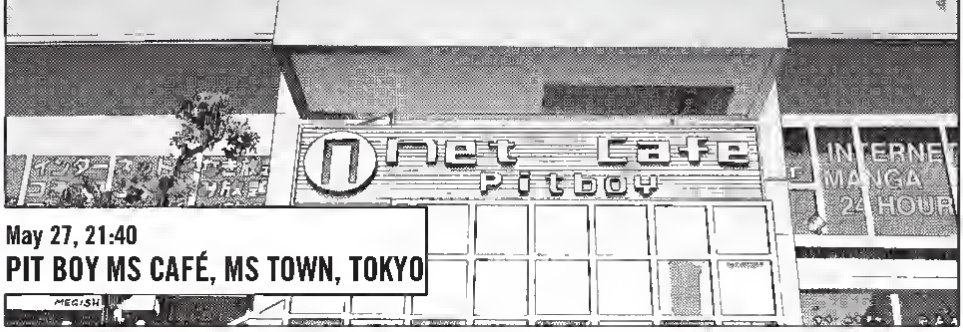
VVM
VVM
VVM
VRUM
May 27, 21:30
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT,
MS TOWN STATION


Oh an NSX!
Dad a cop car!
VRUM
VROOM
Metropolitan
POLICE
Department

Th... Thanks! Aragaki, Express-way Patrol!
's a plea-sure!


Pleased to meet you. Yoshino, Anti Cyber Crimes Division.
Thanks for your help today.


If he follows the same pattern as before,
he'll use one of the Kanagawa or Saitama branches as a spring-board,
but will actually be using a branch in Tokyo.
Whoa ...
As hot as the rumors say.
There are 13 Pit Boys in total in the metro area.
From here in MS Town, 7 of those 9 can be reached within 30 minutes.
If he avoids the ones he's already used, that leaves 9.
So this is the best place to be on standby, right?


net Cafe
Pitboy
INTERNET
MANGA
24 HOUR
May 27, 21:40
PIT BOY MS CAFÉ, MS TOWN, TOKYO

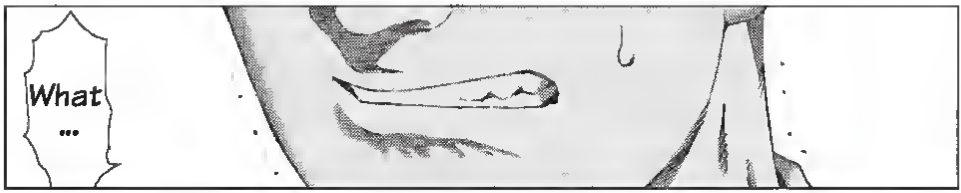
This ...
is you, isn't it?
IF YOU SEE THIS MAN CALL 911
What'll you do if it is ?
...
I'm not gonna report you or anything.
Oh...

!
There are 3 cops in the café right now
pre-tending to be custo-mers.
NGNNN
But there are cops out front, too.
You'd better run for it.

...
You're letting me get away?
There's a work uniform in here.
Change into this first.
I won't tell anyone, so don't worry.
Yeah.
Hide your gear in there and roll it out with you.
You should be able to get away without raising any eyebrows.
There's a janitor cart near the office entrance,
a blue cart they use to collect blankets used by customers.

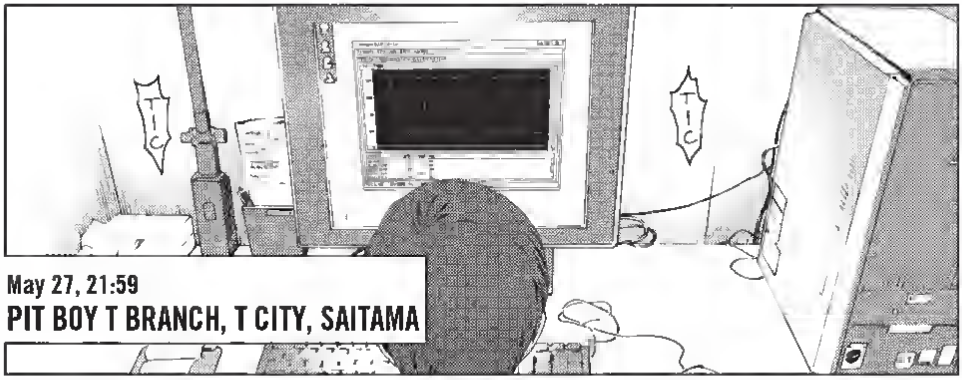
Because you spoke out about Sea Guardian.
Why are you ... doing all this for me?
My hometown is Ishinomaki, Miyagi.
...?
I'm sure you've got other reasons for doing this, don't you.
Everyone in my family was fine,
but lots of my oldest friends got swallowed up by the tsunami following the quake.
I don't know what they are,
but that doesn't really matter.

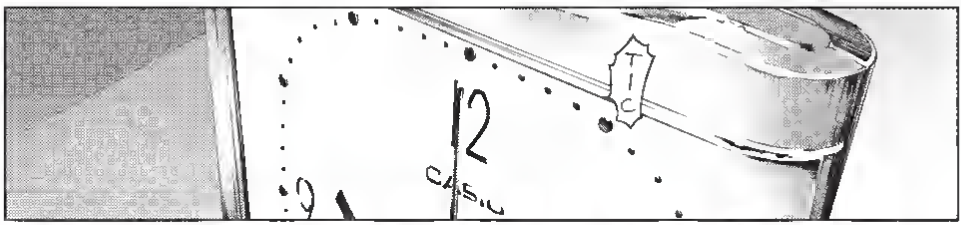
GRIP
I just felt that 'cause you spoke out about those people
then I should help you if I could.

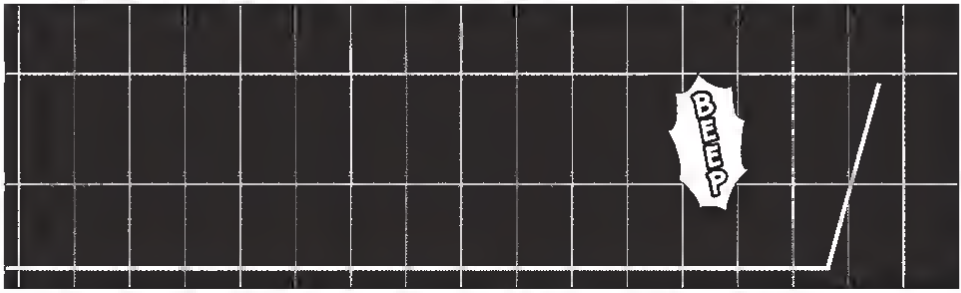

What ...

"DIVINE RETRI-BUTION" ?!
THEY TOOK THEIR RIDICULE TOO FAR...!

Did your "cyber-attack" go well?
No. It hasn't even started yet.
...
... Sorry.
But the rest of the process is all automated so I don't really need to be here.
Oh, I see.
Got it.
Thank you.
I'll get your things and bring them back so get out of here quick.
And you'd better not use any of our chain's branches anymore.
They've circulated a wanted poster.
Oh,
CLOSE
it's nothing.


TIC
TIC
May 27, 21:59
PIT BOY T BRANCH, T CITY, SAITAMA


TIC
12


BEEP

GOT YA ...!

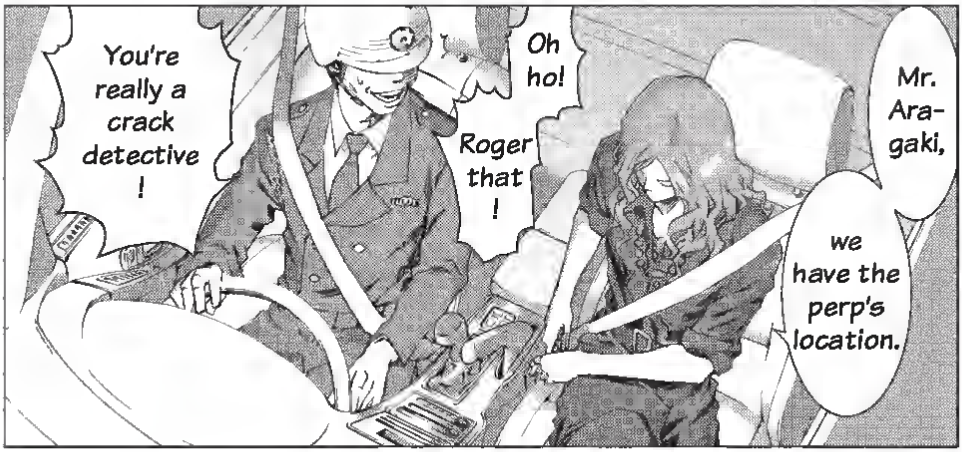
File
010

Boss!
Got a hit on this computer!
I'm sending you the analysis results right now!
Roger.

Heh heh heh.
It's my lucky day!
Gettin' to drive around with this hottie!

Pit Boy MS branch.
Booth 43.

My driving skills will make you swoon, m'lady!!
くわっ
STARE
They used to call me "Falcon of the Gulf"!


You're really a crack detective!
Oh ho!
Roger that!
Mr. Aragaki,
we have the perp's location.

I, ace of the Expressway Patrol, Aragaki,
will get you there quickly and safely!!
ANYWHERE IN JAPAN— JUST NAME THE PLACE!

Third Street?
Th...

Well then, to the SH Building on 3rd Street, please.

It just happens to be right in front of where we staked out.
Pure chance, but lucky, right?
Hah...
Ha ha.
Lucky...
WHAAAAA?!
Just 50 meters ahead.
VROOM
22:15 DEPARTURE
SKREEE
22:16 ARRIVAL

BTAM
No, no! Ha ha ha ha ha hah!
It was a pleasure!
Thank you very much for today.
You were a huge help.
Hey! The Falcon of the Gulf's cryin' like a baby!
Hilarious. I'll snap a celiphone pic...
The 3 agents in the café right now are on standby.
We've secured all the exits.
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
Status?
Good work, lieutenant.
May 27, 22:16
PIT BOY MS BRANCH, MS TOWN, TOKYO

He was... there just a minute ago.
Must've left before we noticed ...
Geez. Whatta pain in the neck.
ZZZZ
At present, there are 40 customers.
Booth 43 is a reclining seat, right?
Huh?
Where is the clerk?
THNK
THU
MP

EVERY-
BODY
FREEZE
!!
THIS
IS THE
POLICE
!

Cops
?
Huh
?!
39

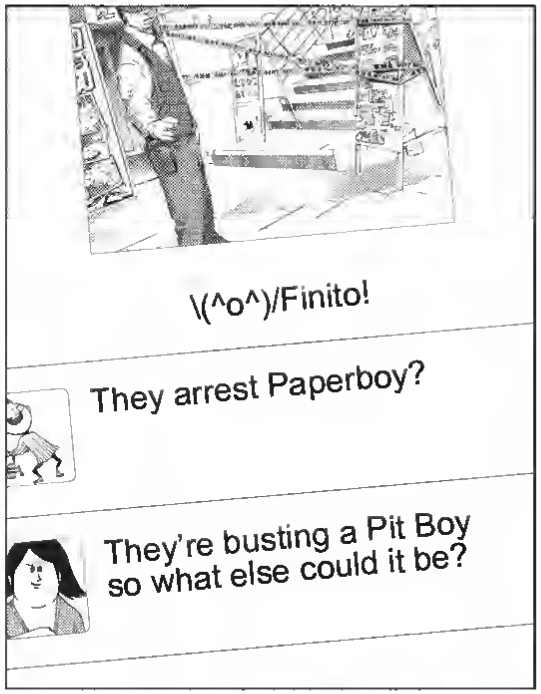
It's
not a
gam-
bling
raid...
Hey...
Lt.
Yo-
shino
!
What
are
you
doing
?!

We have received information that a terrorism suspect is hiding in this establishment!
This is the Anti Cyber Crimes Division of the Metropolitan Police Department!
EVERYONE REMAIN IN YOUR SEATS AND PRODUCE ID!
Hah?
KASHIK
CHIME
that racket?
The hell is
Anyone who doesn't comply will be detained!
Hey, you there! Get back to your seat!

WTF!!
cops r here! lolol
Pit boy live

C... Cops !
The fuck you want ?
Scram!

WOOSH


\(^o^)/Finito!
They arrest Paperboy?
They're busting a Pit Boy so what else could it be?

GO A-WAY !
GO A-WAY !

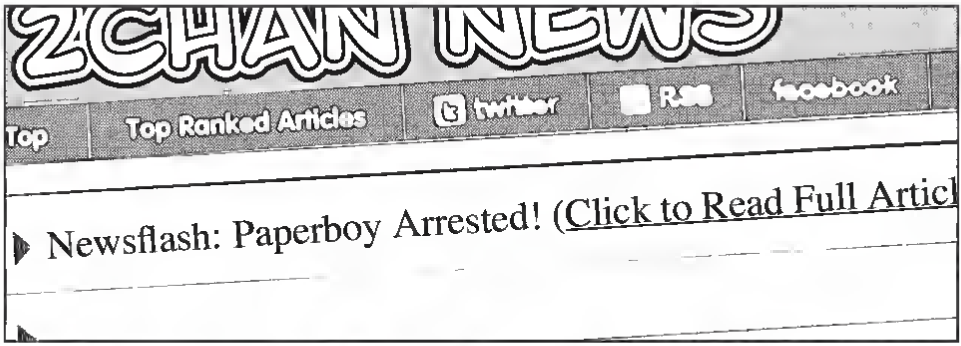
Go away !
B O O
B O O
Yeah, yeah !
Go away!

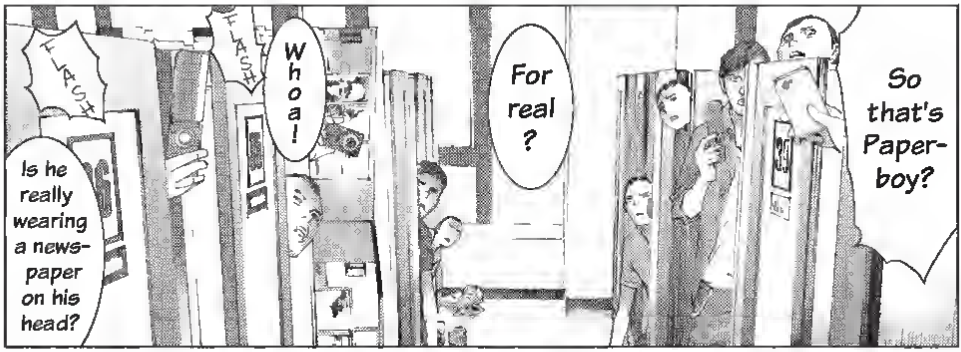
Go home, pigs !
No-body called you!

GO AWAY!
GO AWAY!
GO AWAY!
GO AWAY!
WHISH
43
Go away!
Go away!
Go away!

I've been dying to meet you,
Paper-boy.
BAM
Heh.

WHIP
...
Tsk
!
GRAB

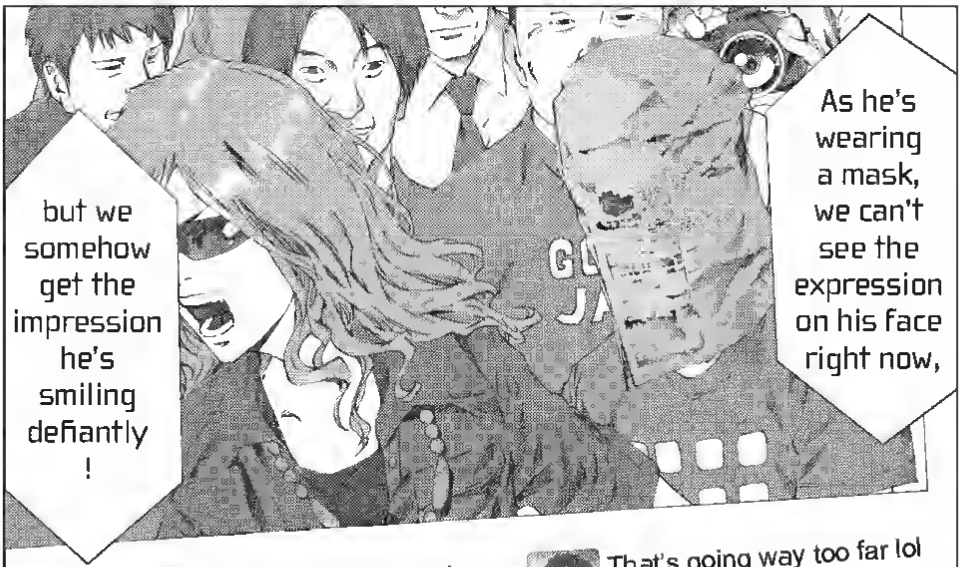

2CHAN NEWS
Top
Top Ranked Articles
twitter
RSS
facebook
Newsflash: Paperboy Arrested! (Click to Read Full Articl

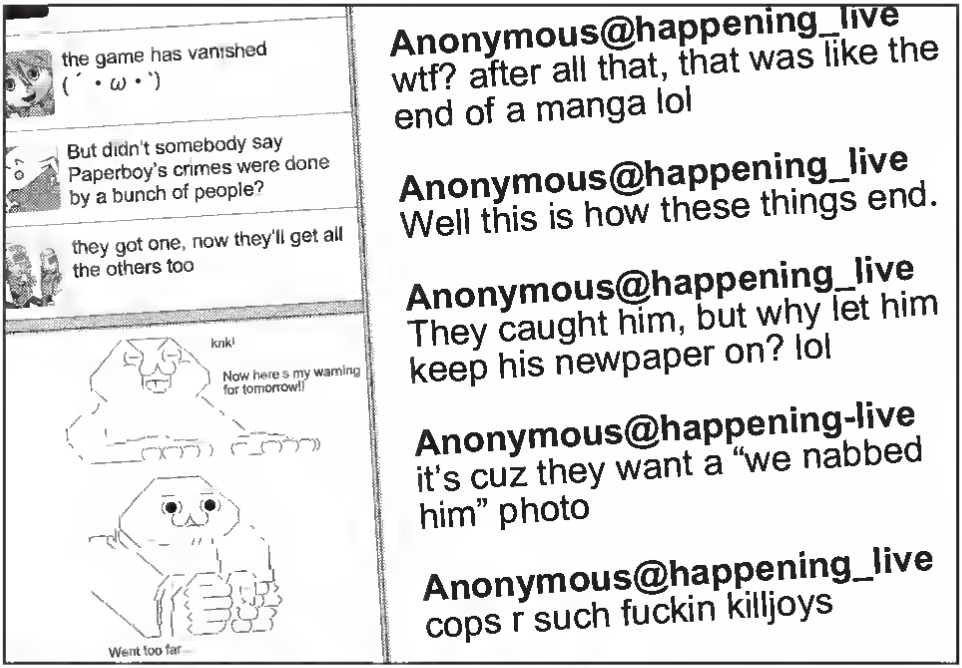

FLASH
FLASH
Whoa!
For real?
So that's Paper-boy?
Is he really wearing a news-paper on his head?

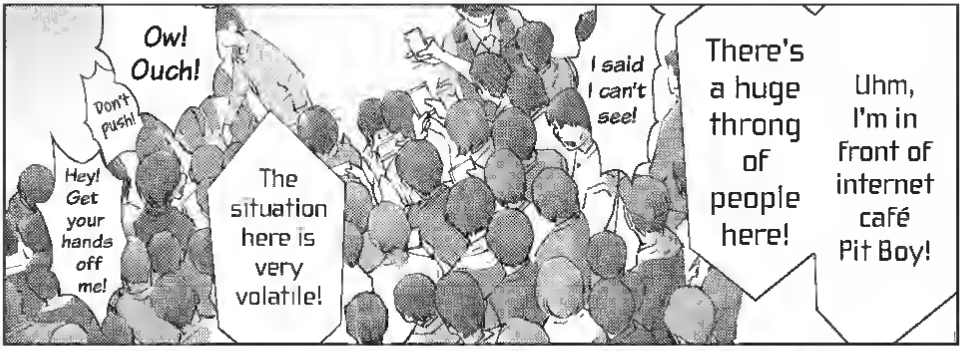
REMAIN IN YOUR SEATS!
OUT OF THE WAY!
60
38
33
56

Huh ?
What's going on?
Move along, please !
Don't stand in the way, please !

is apparently being taken in for questioning by MPD officers.
The man who posted a series of videos online foretelling his crimes under the alias "Paperboy"


but we somehow get the impression he's smiling defiantly !
As he's wearing a mask, we can't see the expression on his face right now,
Stop lying you liars lol
That's going way too far lol
Paperboy arrested for real??

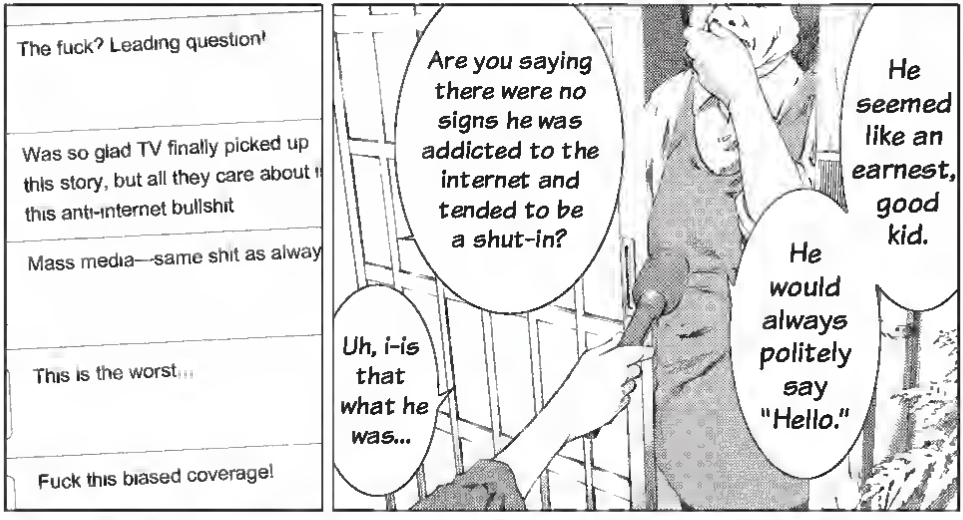

the game has vanished
(´ • ω • `)
But didn't somebody say Paperboy's crimes were done by a bunch of people?
they got one, now they'll get all the others too
knk!
Now here's my warning for tomorrow!!
Went too far
Anonymous@happening_live
wtf? after all that, that was like the end of a manga lol
Anonymous@happening_live
Well this is how these things end.
Anonymous@happening_live
They caught him, but why let him keep his newspaper on? lol
Anonymous@happening-live
it's cuz they want a "we nabbed him" photo
Anonymous@happening_live
cops r such fuckin killjoys


Ow! Ouch!
Don't push!
Hey! Get your hands off me!
The situation here is very volatile!
I said I can't see!
There's a huge throng of people here!
Uhm, I'm in front of internet café Pit Boy!

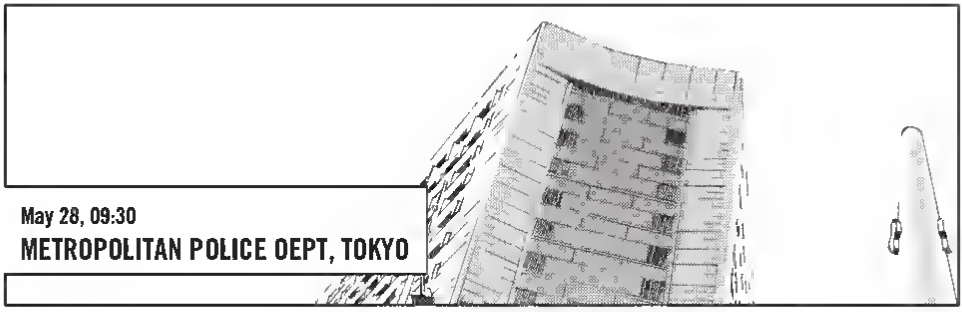
Ah! Yes, sir!
We need crowd control out front!
Hey, forget about back here!

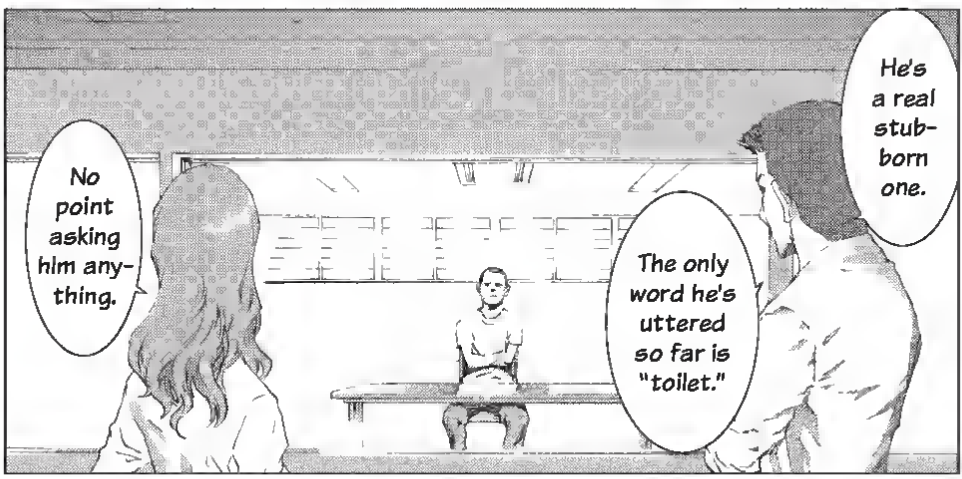
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL

ほけんの窓口
The recently-arrested 19-year-old male
continues to maintain his silence in the face of police questioning.


The fuck? Leading question!
Was so glad TV finally picked up this story, but all they care about is this anti-internet bullshit
Mass media—same shit as alway
This is the worst...
Fuck this biased coverage!
Are you saying there were no signs he was addicted to the internet and tended to be a shut-in?
He seemed like an earnest, good kid.
He would always politely say "Hello."
Uh, i-is that what he was...

more people are sure to call for the restriction of internet usage by minors.
As a result of these vile acts of terrorism born of the dark side of internet culture,


May 28, 09:30
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPT, TOKYO


No point asking him anything.
The only word he's uttered so far is "toilet."
He's a real stubborn one.

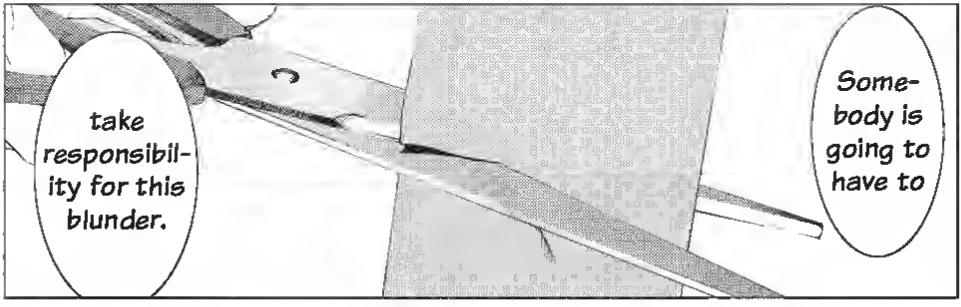
You think so?
I believe he doesn't actually know anything.
Yuichi Aoyama isn't a part of this. He's an outsider.
Volun-teered ...?
But that's so...
Either he's a sacrificial pawn that our perp was happy to abandon at any time,
or he volunteered to be a scapegoat of his own accord.
He hadn't been told how to mask his prints by coating his fingertips in wood glue.
Public Securi-ty?
They want to question Yuichi Aoyama themselves this after-noon.
CHAK
Boss.
A request from Public Security.

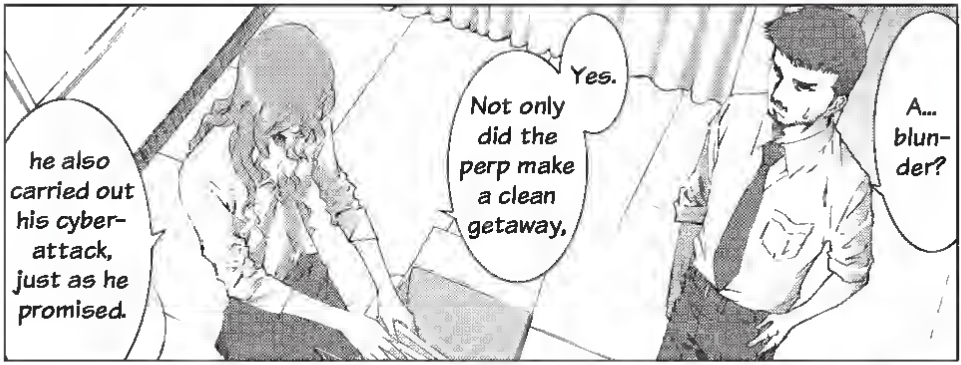
Well, I knew Public Security would make a move eventually.
Despite the small scale, it's still considered an organized crime operation.
I see.
So if it's not a fake name
then he's an illegal immi-grant.
It seems they've begun a background check on "Nelsin Kato-Ricarte."
Speaking of, the Immigration Bureau has no record whatsoever of that name.
And he's never been registered as an alien, either.
All we know right know is
based on the spelling of his name, it's very likely he's from an English-speaking country.
Despite the sudden increase in our workload
it feels like we're hardly getting anywhere.

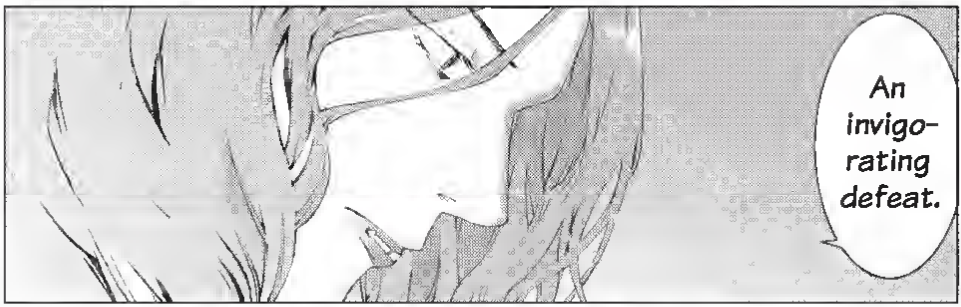
We missed the chance of a lifetime.
Well, he's greatly mistaken.
we got one of Paperboy's accomplices, he said.
Even if he's not the ringleader
The chief was all smiles.

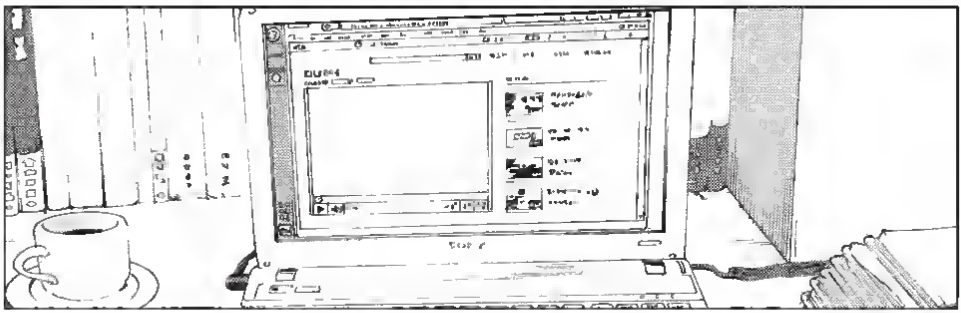
That's the sole result we could say we got out of this.
However, if Aoyama got the t-shirt he was wearing from the perp,
then we might be able to get his DNA off of it.

He probably won't ever use a Pit Boy again
and he won't bother to use the same membership card again either.

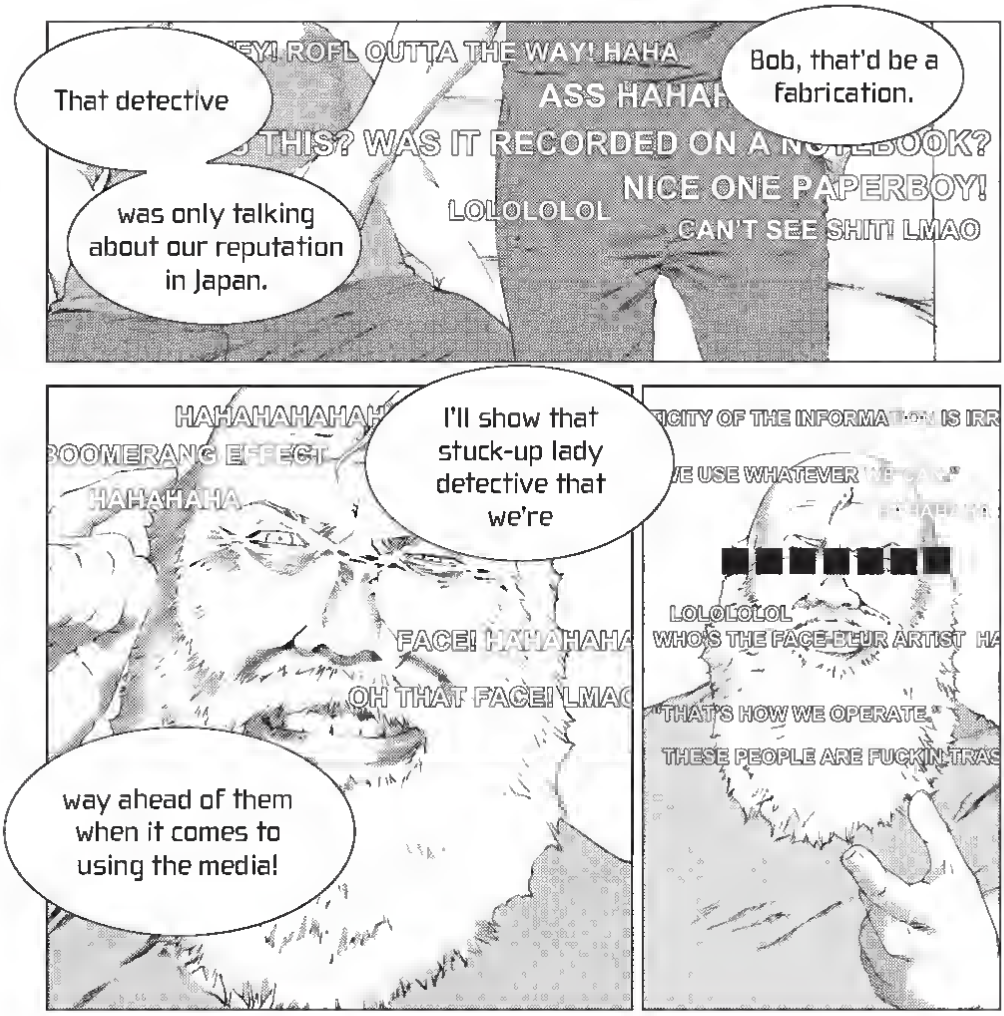

take responsibility for this blunder.
Somebody is going to have to


he also carried out his cyber-attack, just as he promised.
Yes. Not only did the perp make a clean getaway,
A... blun-der?

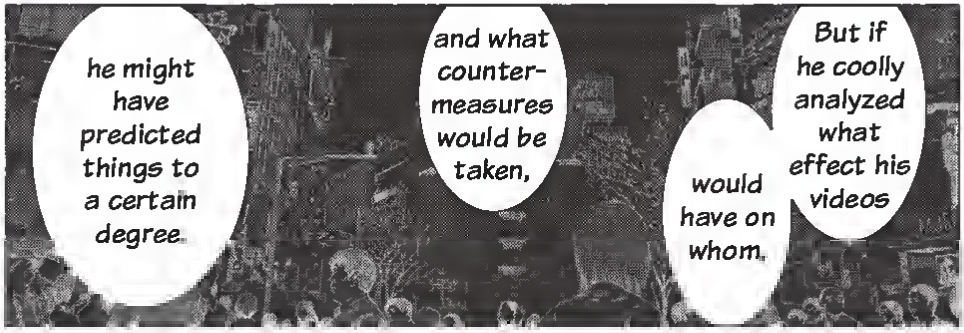

An invigo-rating defeat.

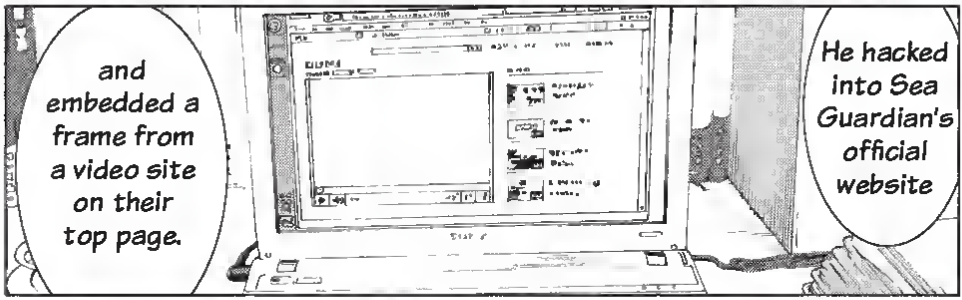


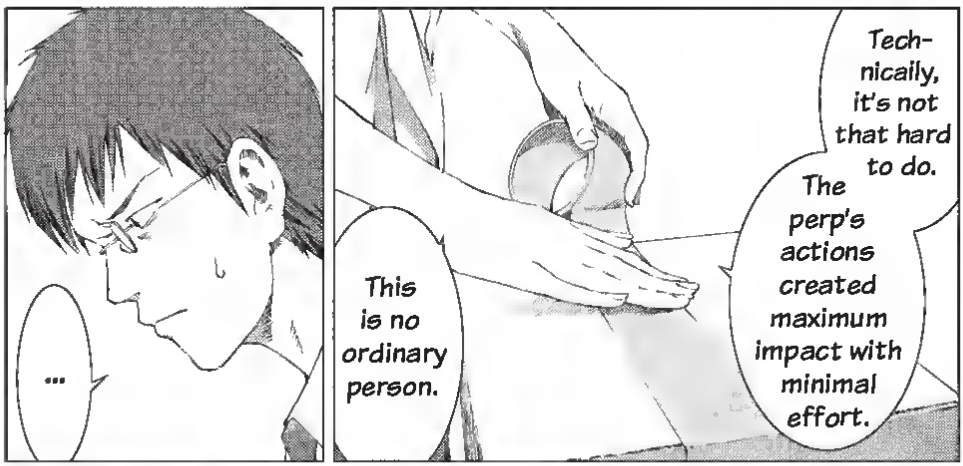
WTF IS THIS?! HAHAHA
BET PAPERBOY DROPPED TH
LOLOLOLOL
SERIOUSLY? H
HAHAHAHAHAHA
WHAT?? LMFAO STOLEN VIDEO
What do you think, Helena? If we edit out the first half of this
it would seem like little miss detective is verbally abusing us, right?
I think it's a good idea.
Erase this and we'll propagate it.


That detective
was only talking about our reputation in Japan.
Bob, that'd be a fabrication.
LOLOLOLOL
NICE ONE PAPERBOY!
CAN'T SEE SHIT! LMAO
HAHAHAHAHA
I'll show that stuck-up lady detective that we're
HAHAHAHA
FACE! HAHAHAHA
OH THAT FACE! LMAO
way ahead of them when it comes to using the media!
LOLOLOLOL
WHO'S THE FACE-BLUR ARTIST HA
"THAT'S HOW WE OPERATE."
THESE PEOPLE ARE FUCKIN TRAS
YAY! YOU WATCHING THIS SEA GUARDIAN?
TOTALLY DESERVE IT LOL
LOLOLOLOLO
WHAT TOTAL SCUM HAHA
DYING OF LAUGHTER HELP HAHAHA
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA
LOLOLOLOLOL
THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF BULLSHIT ARTISTS! HA
LOLOLOLOL
LOLOLOLOLOL
A GIF ARTIST HAS STARTED UPLOADING

Can't quite bring myself to feel sympathy
when I see their attitudes.
but now that media has gotten the better of him.
Must be humiliating.
Bob Parker's supposedly a genius when it comes to using the media,
but what if the perp did this because he was able to
anticipate our actions as well as Sea Guardian's response?
What if,
and this is just hypothetical,
There are some coincidences tangled up in there, I think.
You're right.
There's no way.
No way.
He could never have done that.

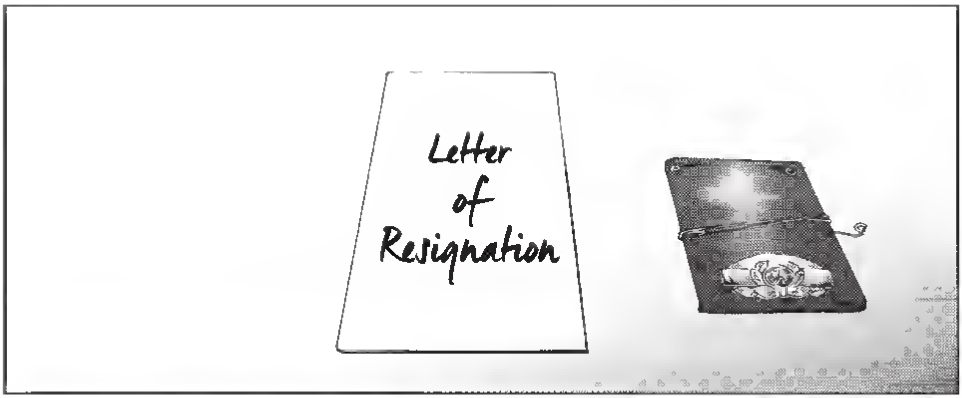

he might have predicted things to a certain degree.
and what counter-measures would be taken,
would have on whom.
But if he coolly analyzed what effect his videos

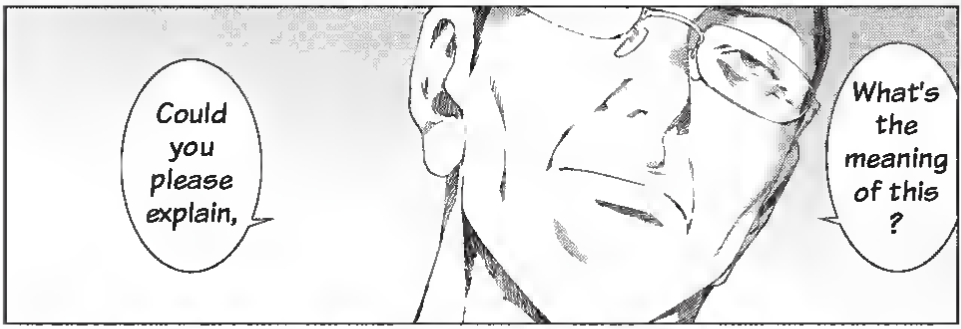

and embedded a frame from a video site on their top page.
He hacked into Sea Guardian's official website


...
This is no ordinary person.
The perp's actions created maximum impact with minimal effort.
Tech-nically, it's not that hard to do.

society ends up paying the massive price.
When you make a smart person angry,

who got ticked off by something somehow.
There might be a smart person out there right now
Be-cause
I have a bill to settle, too.
By the way, boss,
how come you're boxing up all your personal stuff?
?
It's been brief, but you've been a great help.
Ichi-ka-wa.
Oka-mo-to.

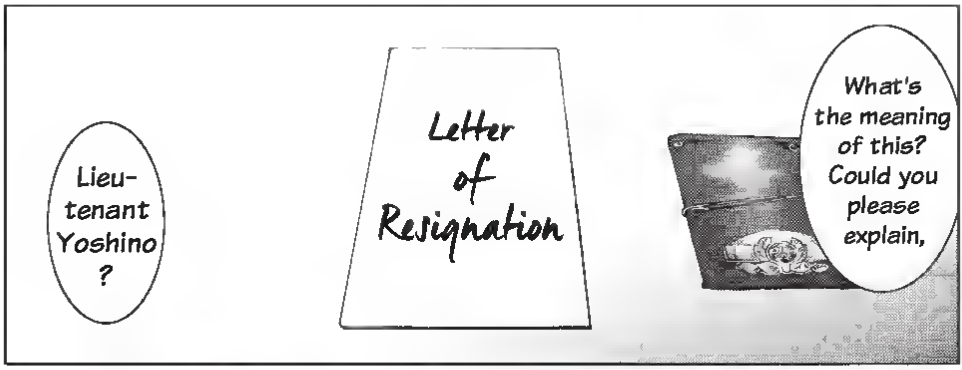

Letter of Resignation


Could you please explain,
What's the meaning of this ?

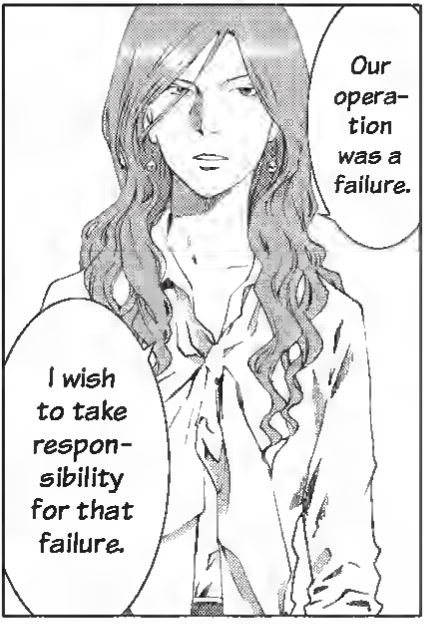
Lieu-tenant Yoshino ?

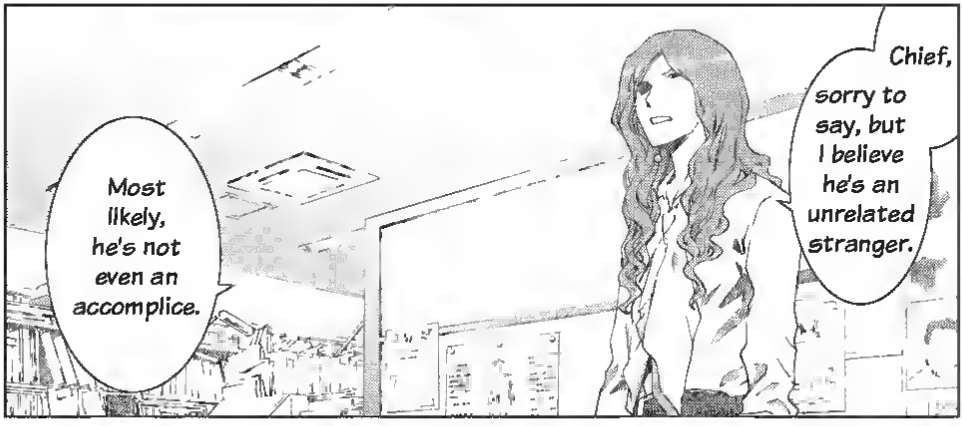
PROPHECY

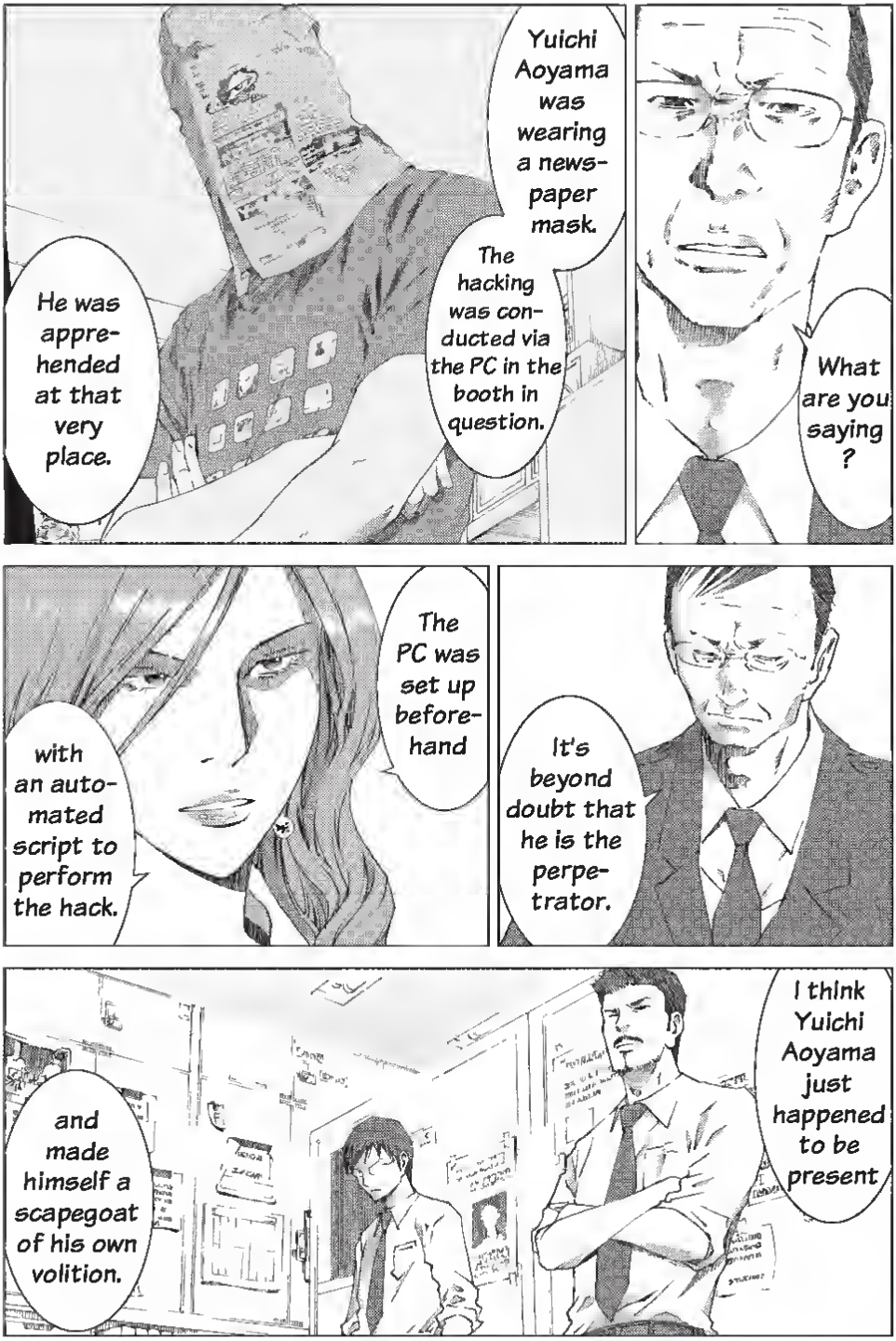
File
011

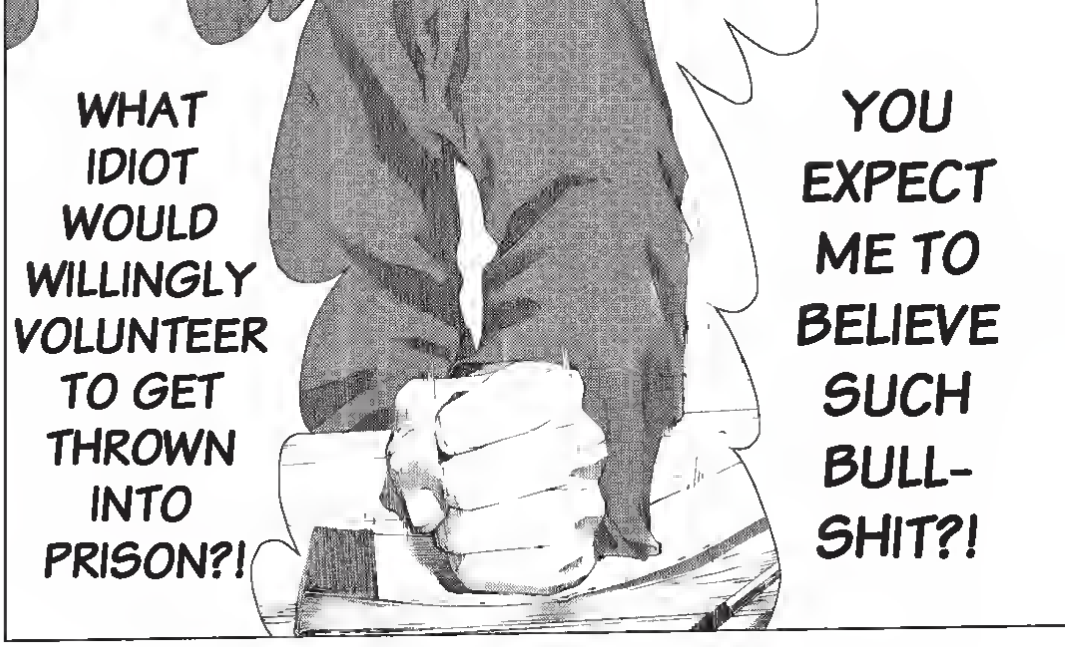

Lieu-tenant Yoshino ?
Letter of Resignation
What's the meaning of this? Could you please explain,

A failure how?
We arrested Paperboy without incident.

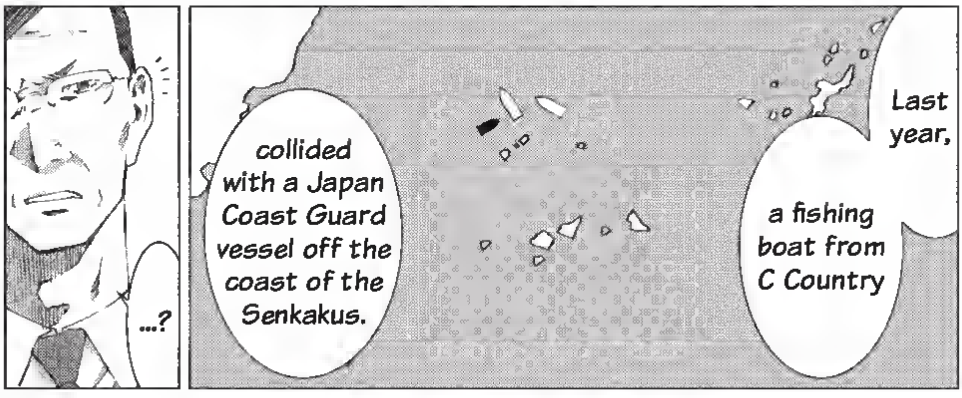

Our opera-tion was a failure.
I wish to take respon-sibility for that failure.

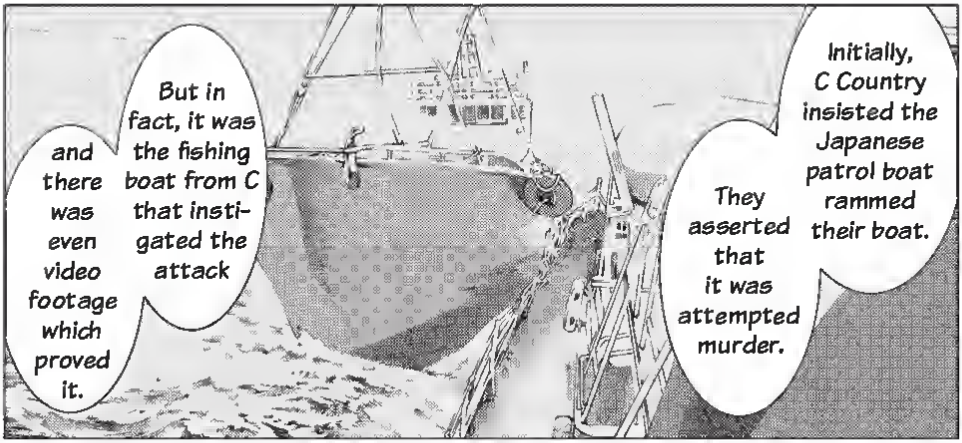

Chief, sorry to say, but I believe he's an unrelated stranger.
Most likely, he's not even an accomplice.

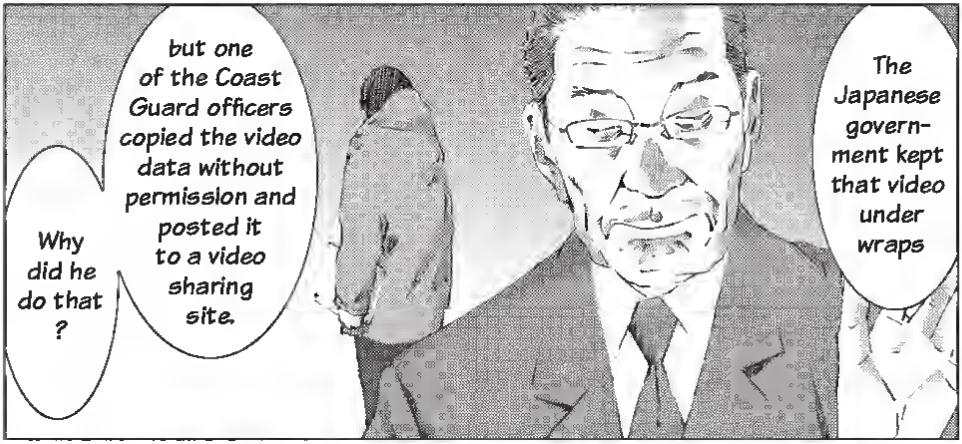

Yuichi Aoyama was wearing a newspaper mask.
The hacking was conducted via the PC in the booth in question.
He was apprehended at that very place.
What are you saying?
The PC was set up beforehand
with an automated script to perform the hack.
It's beyond doubt that he is the perpetrator.
I think Yuichi Aoyama just happened to be present
and made himself a scapegoat of his own volition.


WHAT IDIOT WOULD WILLINGLY VOLUNTEER TO GET THROWN INTO PRISON?!
YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE SUCH BULL-SHIT?!

but depending on the circum-stances, it's very possible.
I think such cases are extremely rare,

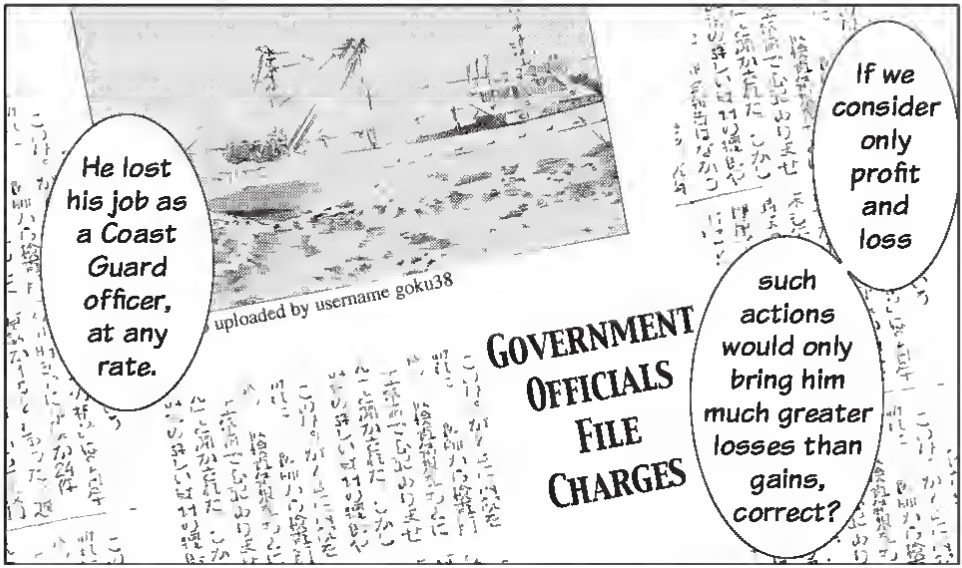

...?
collided with a Japan Coast Guard vessel off the coast of the Senkakus.
Last year, a fishing boat from C Country


Initially, C Country insisted the Japanese patrol boat rammed their boat.
They asserted that it was attempted murder.
But in fact, it was the fishing boat from C that instigated the attack
and there was even video footage which proved it.


The Japanese government kept that video under wraps
but one of the Coast Guard officers copied the video data without permission and posted it to a video sharing site.
Why did he do that ?

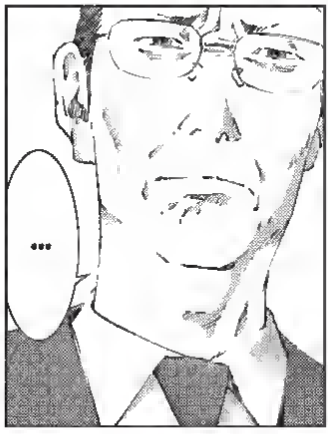
i'm talking about his motivation.

What is this about ...?
What's this have to do with the case?


He lost his job as a Coast Guard officer, at any rate.
uploaded by username goku38
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FILE CHARGES
If we consider only profit and loss
such actions would only bring him much greater losses than gains, correct?

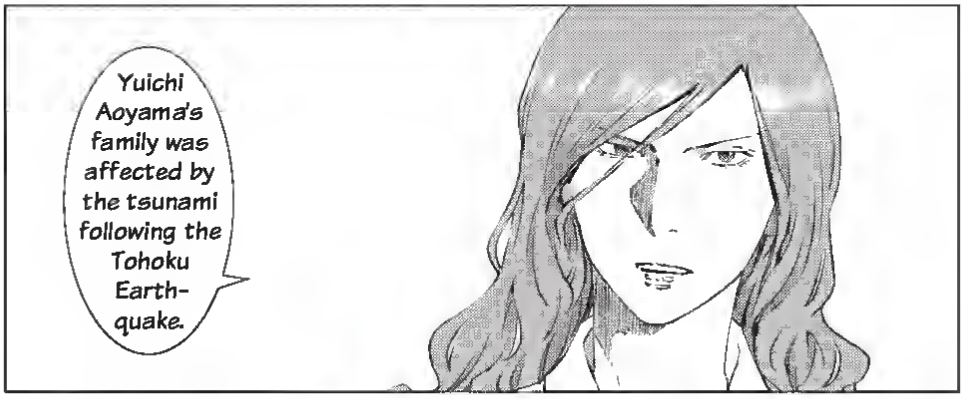
of the Japan Coast Guard, who were being called murderers.
JAPAN COAST GUAR
he was able to prove to the world the honor and legitimacy
On the other hand,

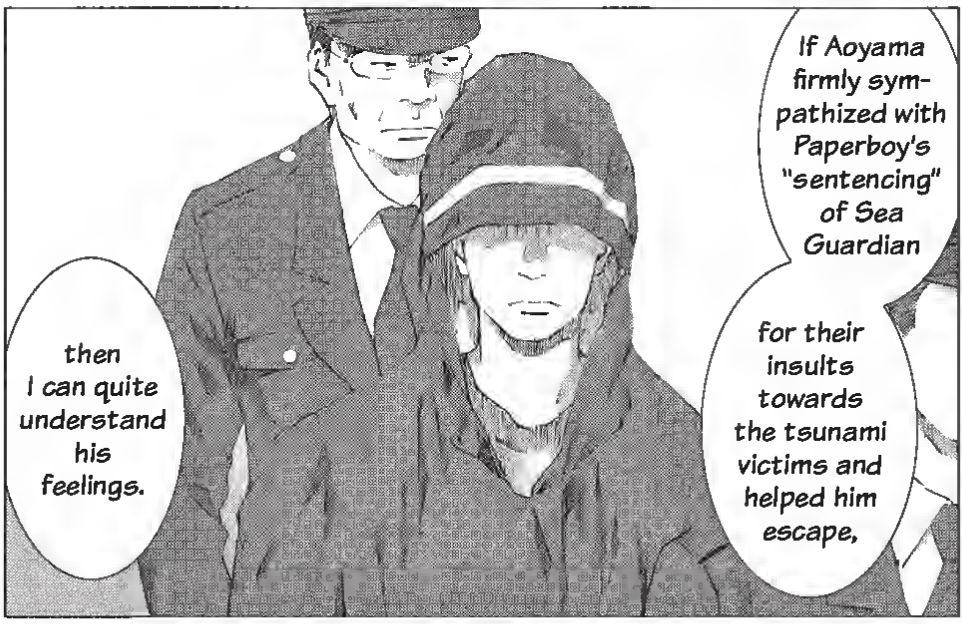
Here's what I think.

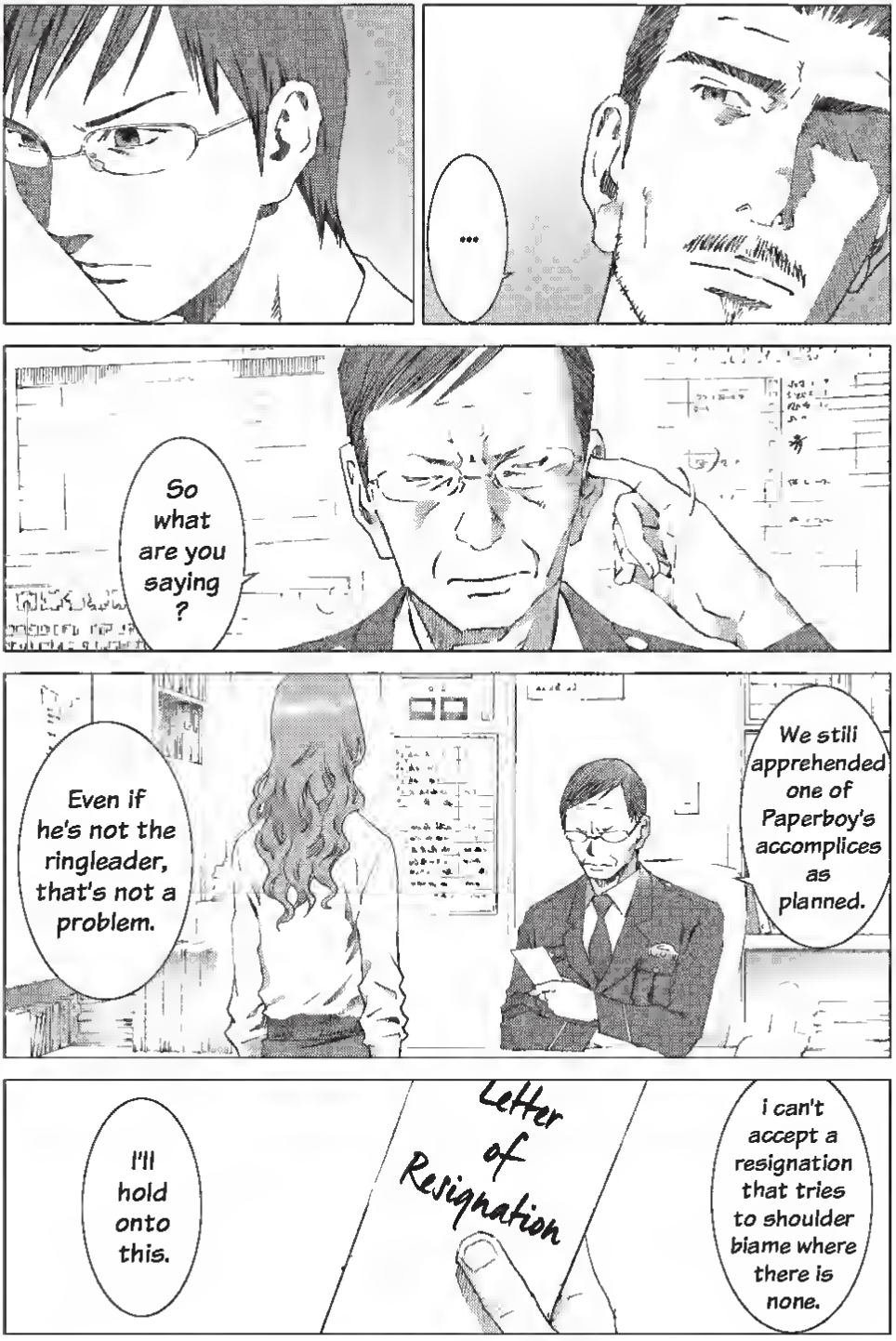

...

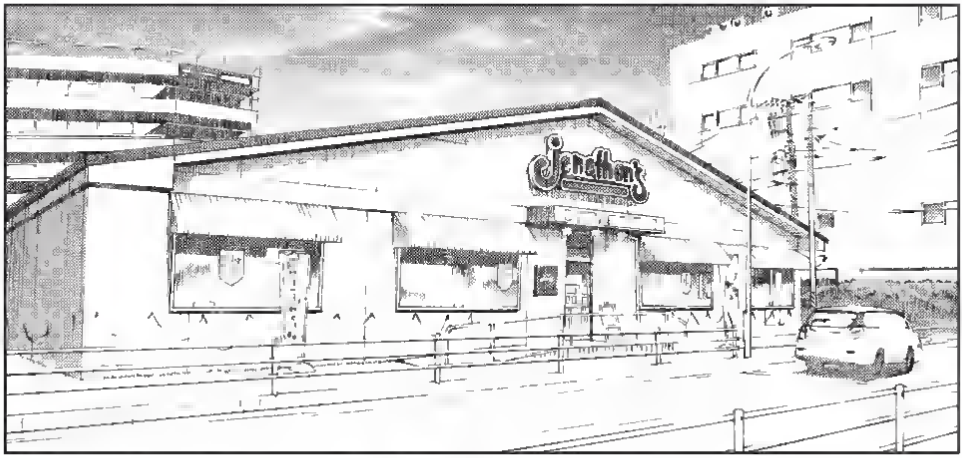
The moment when you believe with absolute conviction that something will benefit someone,
it's possible to carry out actions that transcend personal gain.

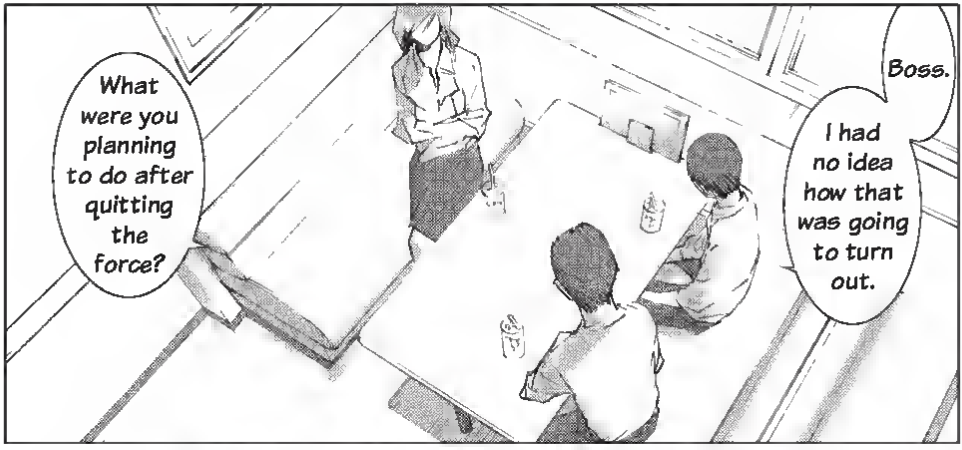
Yo-
shi-
no.
You
mean
you think
that the
perp
is some
sort of
Robin Hood,
going beyond
the law to
bring about
justice?


Yuichi
Aoyama's
family was
affected by
the tsunami
following the
Tohoku
Earth-
quake.


If Aoyama
firmly sym-
pathized with
Paperboy's
"sentencing"
of Sea
Guardian
for their
insults
towards
the tsunami
victims and
helped him
escape,
then
I can quite
understand
his
feelings.


...
So what are you saying?
Even if he's not the ringleader, that's not a problem.
We still apprehended one of Paperboy's accomplices as planned.
I'll hold onto this.
Letter of Resignation
I can't accept a resignation that tries to shoulder blame where there is none.

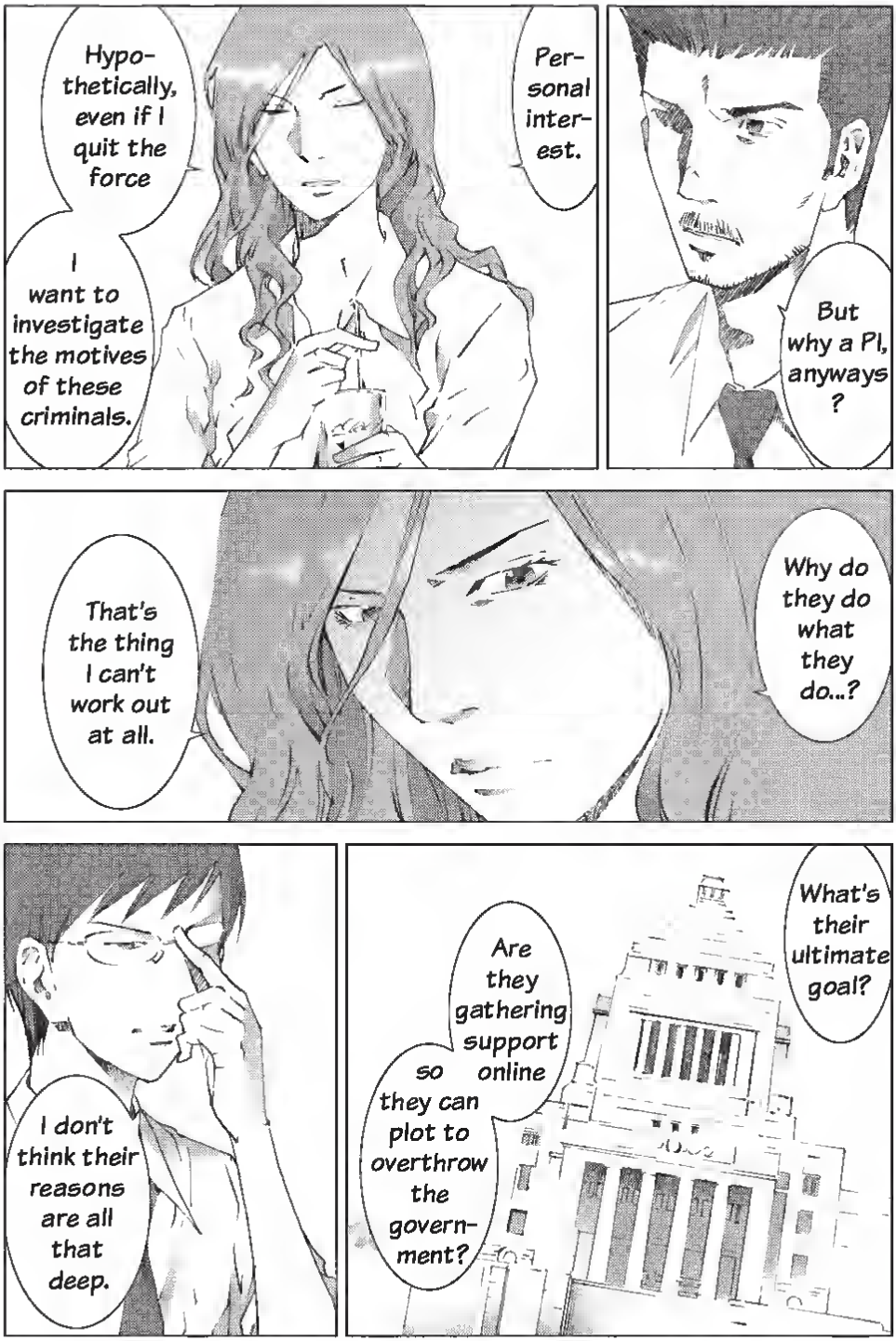

Jenetheng

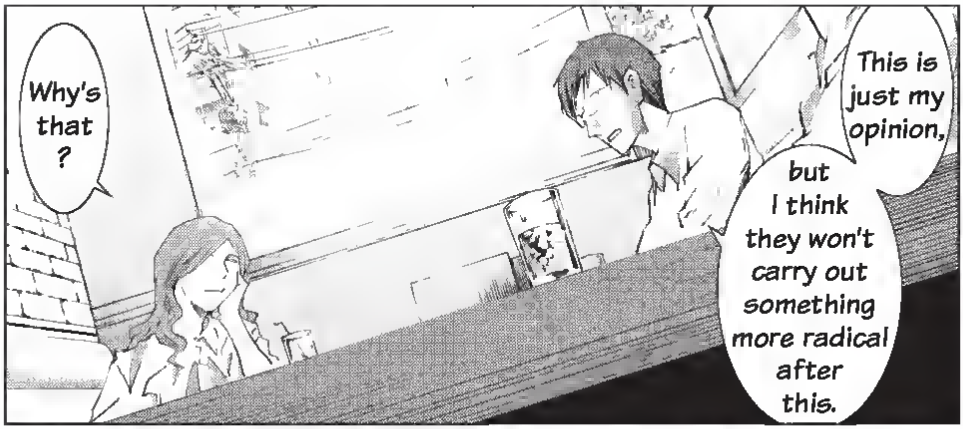

What were you planning to do after quitting the force?
Boss. I had no idea how that was going to turn out.

A private eye?
That would be ill-advised.
You're not cut out for it, boss.

Dunno.
Thought maybe I'd try being a PI.

I'm not convinced.
Because you're beautiful.
Why wouldn't I be?
?
Think about it.
The majority of a PI's work is infidelity cases.
She didn't even hesitate ...
but what's that have to do with working as a PI?
Well, I know I'm pretty,
That's too bad.
it would only complicate things.
If someone conspicuous like you investigates a cheater,


Hypothetically, even if I quit the force
I want to investigate the motives of these criminals.
Personal interest.
But why a PI, anyways?
That's the thing I can't work out at all.
Why do they do what they do...?
I don't think their reasons are all that deep.
What's their ultimate goal?
Are they gathering support online so they can plot to overthrow the government?

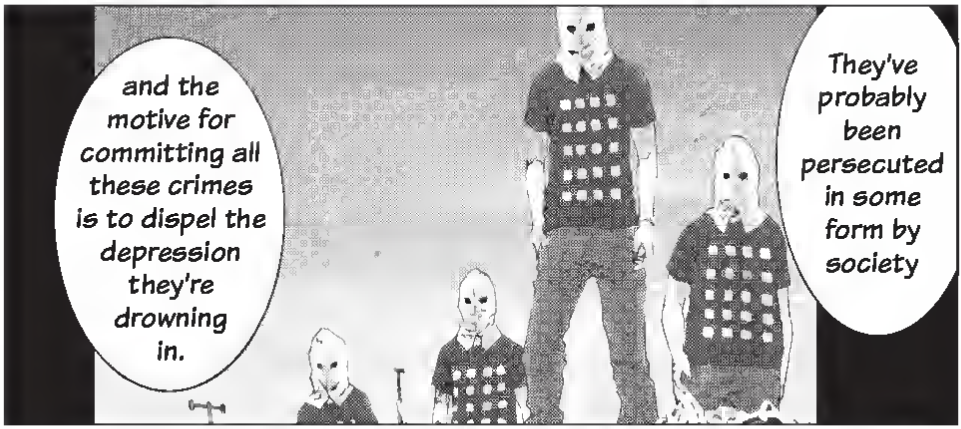

Why's that ?
This is just my opinion,
but I think they won't carry out something more radical after this.

From now on they'll likely only sniff out flame wars on the net
and have fun playing judge-jury-executioner.
Because they only ever pick fights with targets that are within their reach.

I don't get it.
So what's their ultimate aim?

but that's quite clearly a bluff.
There's no value in responding seriously.
In his video he blustered about "changing the world" and whatnot.

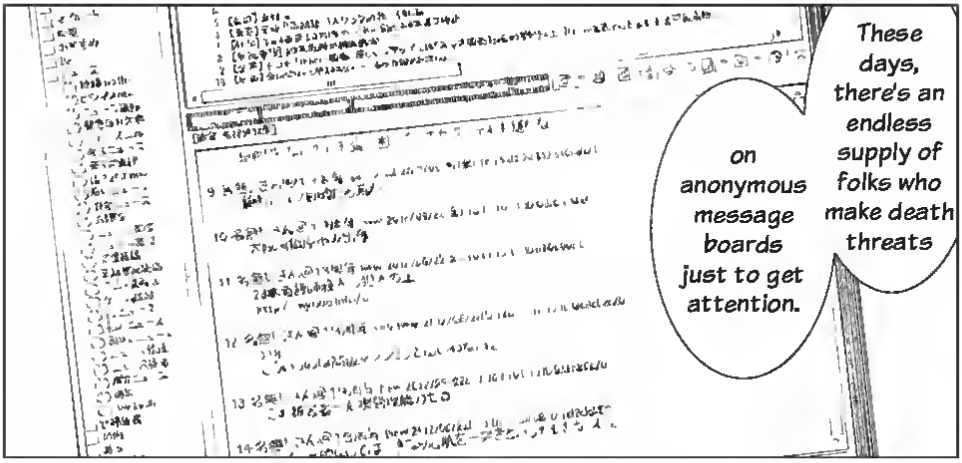
They wanted to reach a position where they're venerated as online gods
and satisfy their swollen egos, I think.
I think they've already achieved their goals.
And now a portion of netizens consider them
to be incredibly charismatic.
This is a community on an SNS created in support of Paperboy's actions.
It already has over 1,000 members.

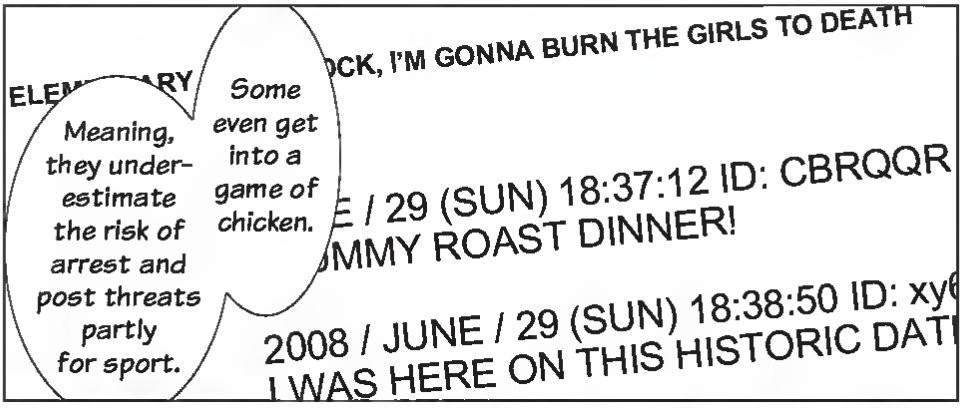

They've probably been persecuted in some form by society
and the motive for committing all these crimes is to dispel the depression they're drowning in.

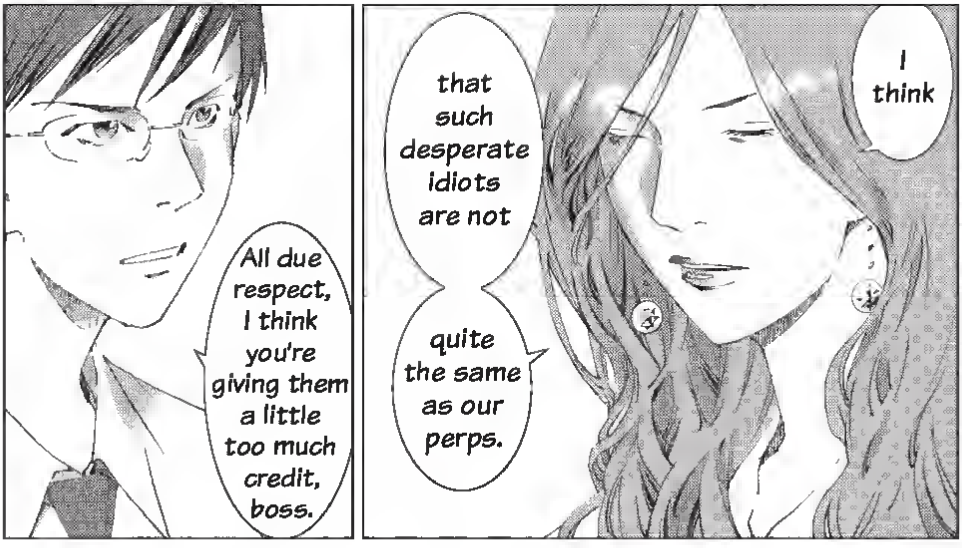
He made it clear when he asserted in his live broadcast that
he wouldn't forgive those who wounded people's self-respect.

But if that's their sole motive
is it even possible to commit so many crimes
that involve so many people?
Very much so.

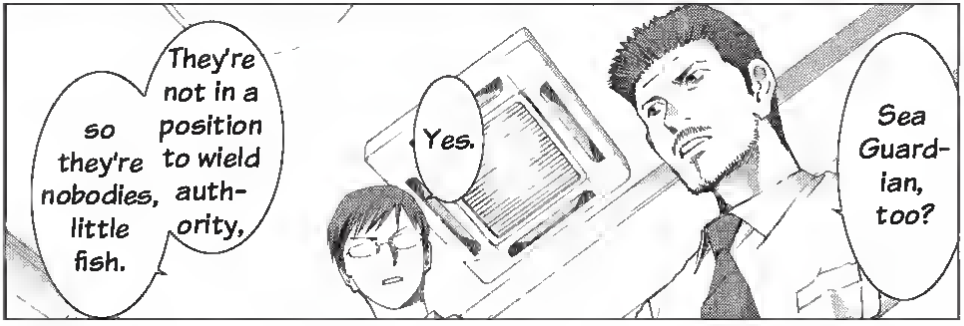
True.
i can see how such a background could be in the roots of their actions.

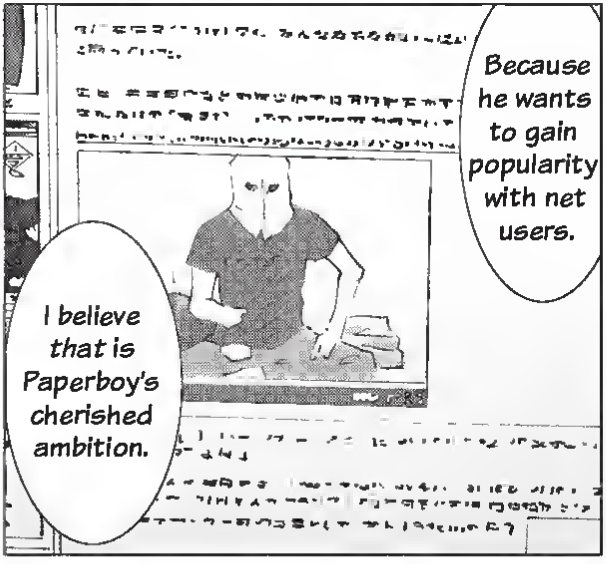

These days, there's an endless supply of folks who make death threats on anonymous message boards just to get attention.

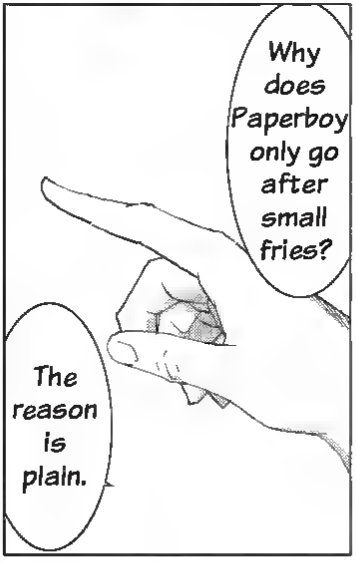

Some even get into a game of chicken.
Meaning, they under-estimate the risk of arrest and post threats partly for sport.
CK, I'M GONNA BURN THE GIRLS TO DEATH
/ 29 (SUN) 18:37:12 ID: CBRQQR
MMY ROAST DINNER!
2008 / JUNE / 29 (SUN) 18:38:50 ID: xy
WAS HERE ON THIS HISTORIC DAT


All due respect, I think you're giving them a little too much credit, boss.
that such desperate idiots are not quite the same as our perps.
I think

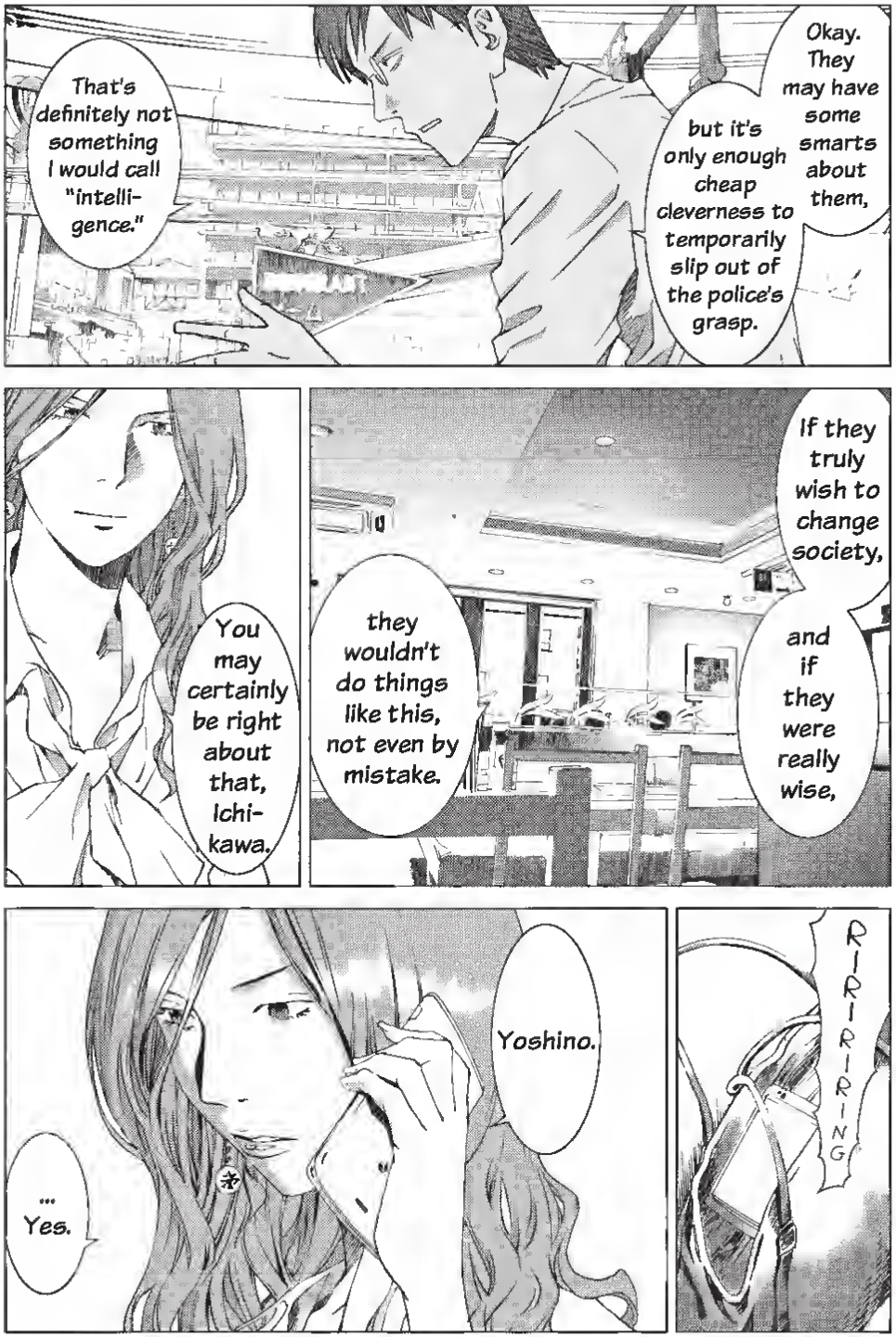
But the targets they've been going after
have all been small fries who made gaffes online and started flame wars.
If this criminal group really wanted to get their revenge on society,
their target ought to be "the establishment."

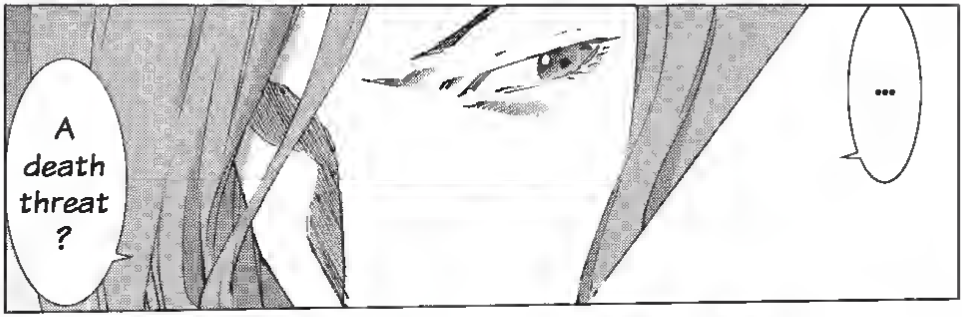

They're not in a position to wield authority,
so they're nobodies, little fish.
Yes.
Sea Guardian, too?


Because he wants to gain popularity with net users.
I believe that is Paperboy's cherished ambition.


Why does Paperboy only go after small fries?
The reason is plain.

So you're saying he's not trying to gather supporters online for some further goal,
he just wants to get famous and indulge in the feeling of being a god.
Exactly.
Any harm inflicted on society is irrelevant so long as it satisfies your pride and people call you "god."
He's essentially the same as a junior high kid who gets full of himself using a copier to pirate games.
It's a profile of a childish, immature criminal.
Hmm ...
That certainly could explain things.
But is that really all?
I feel there must be some deeper thinking behind it.
...


That's definitely not something I would call "intelligence."
Okay. They may have some smarts about them,
but it's only enough cheap cleverness to temporarily slip out of the police's grasp.
You may certainly be right about that, Ichikawa.
they wouldn't do things like this, not even by mistake.
If they truly wish to change society,
and if they were really wise,
Yoshino.
... Yes.
RIRIRING



385 Anonymous
this is just empty word

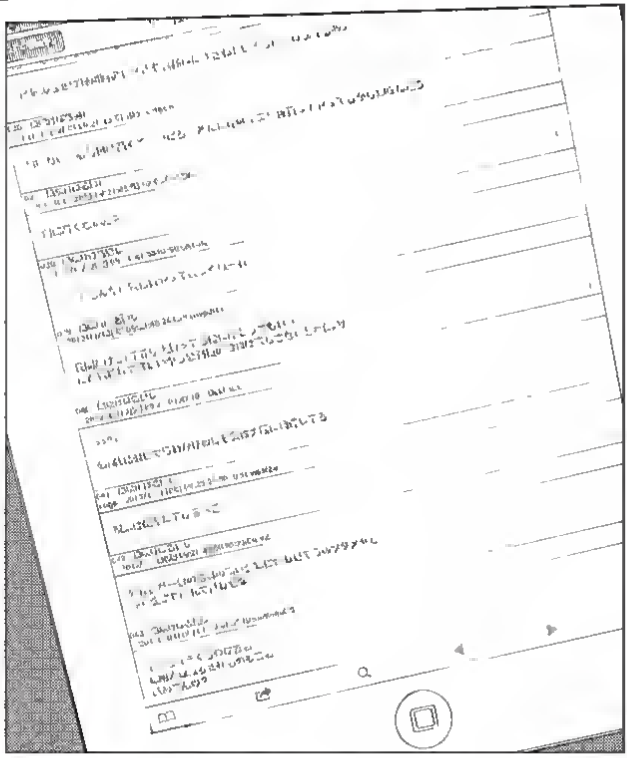
386 Anonymous
If no one else'll do it I
Fuckn seriously

387 Anonymous
@386 Aaah!

388 Anonymous
@386 im reporting

389 Anonymous
@386 Yer out!

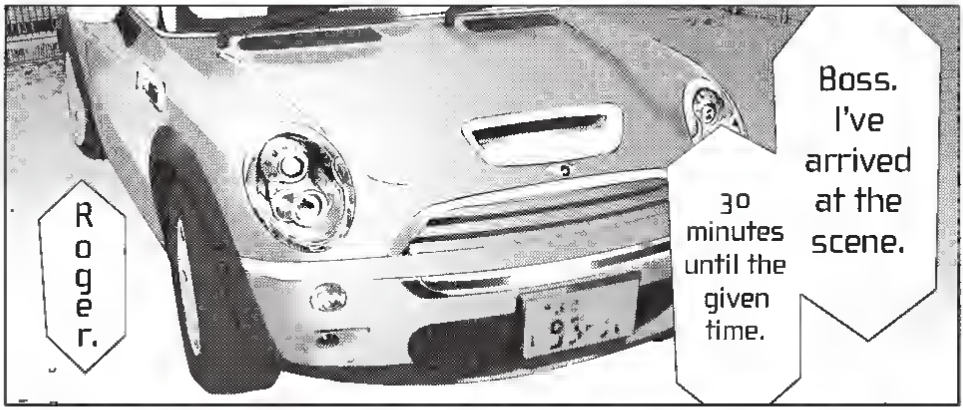
390 Anonymous



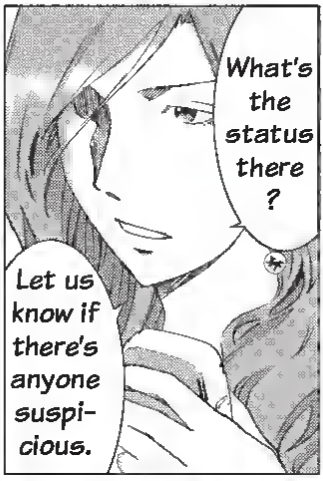
Is it already on?
... Huh?
I'm gonna kill someone at SJ Staa-ation!
Tomor-row at 9 p.m.
Ah ... Uhm ...
'K, tomor-row's warn-ing.
Thanks ♪
Seri-ously gonna do it...

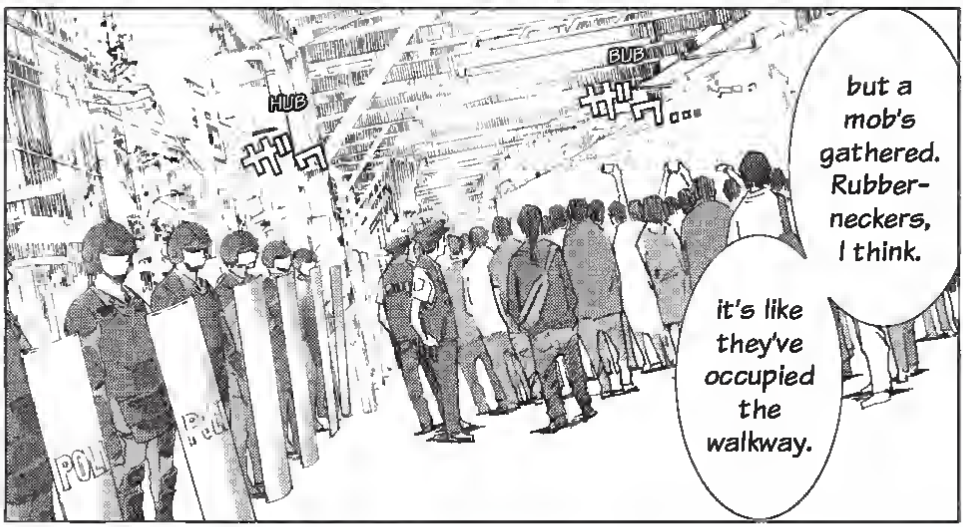
PROPHECY

File
012


Roger.
30 minutes until the given time.
Boss. I've arrived at the scene.

About that, boss...
The area's just a typical walkway, so normally it'd be pretty deserted,


What's the status there?
Let us know if there's anyone suspicious.


HUB
BUB
but a mob's gathered. Rubber-neckers, I think.
it's like they've occupied the walkway.

ニッコリ生放送
NICCORI LIVE
u r gonna get stabbed! rofl
i think this is gonna be a masterpiece...!
We're waiting dude! lol
SONY
We're here at SJ Station today where there's been a death threat,
and I'll show you what's happening totally liiive!
Hi there! Thank you!
This is a Niccori live stream !
Shall we poll what the people think our hero's results will be today?
KLAK KLAK KLAK KLAK
Okay, then!
NICCORI LIVE
This is so wrong! lmao
1. 0 kills
wicked! hahaha
2. 1 kills
rofl mao
3. 2 kills
4. 3 + kills
C'mon, place your bets!
0 kills, 1 kill, 2 kills, 3 plus kills.

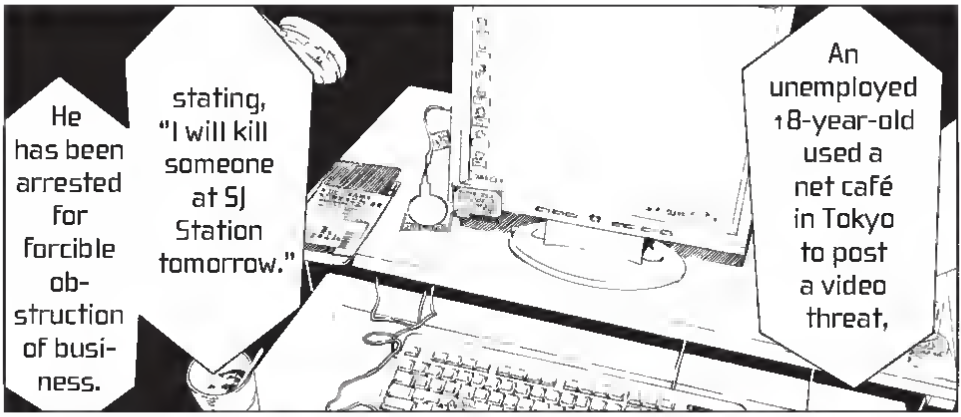
We're telling you to knock it off 'cause it's annoying.
We've the right to refuse to be photo-graphed.
Hey, what're you doing ?
Stop recording us.
Huh ?
Why ?
You need to brush up on your law books, coppers!
YOU LOST THAT ARGU-MENT !
Bzzzt! Woops !
There is no protection of image rights for civil servants on active duty!
(But my source on that is Yahoo! Answers)
...
Wooh!
Yeah!
Niccori Live Stream

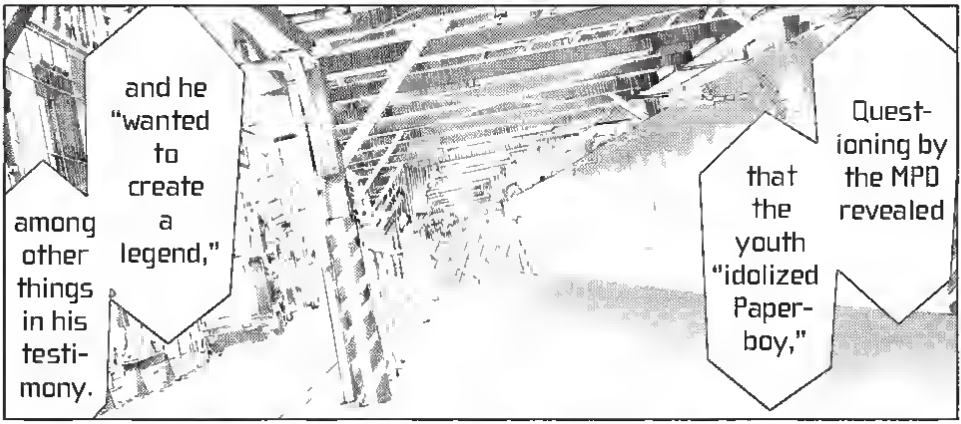
SHH
FF
SHH
FFF
huff
huff
huff
TO
CK

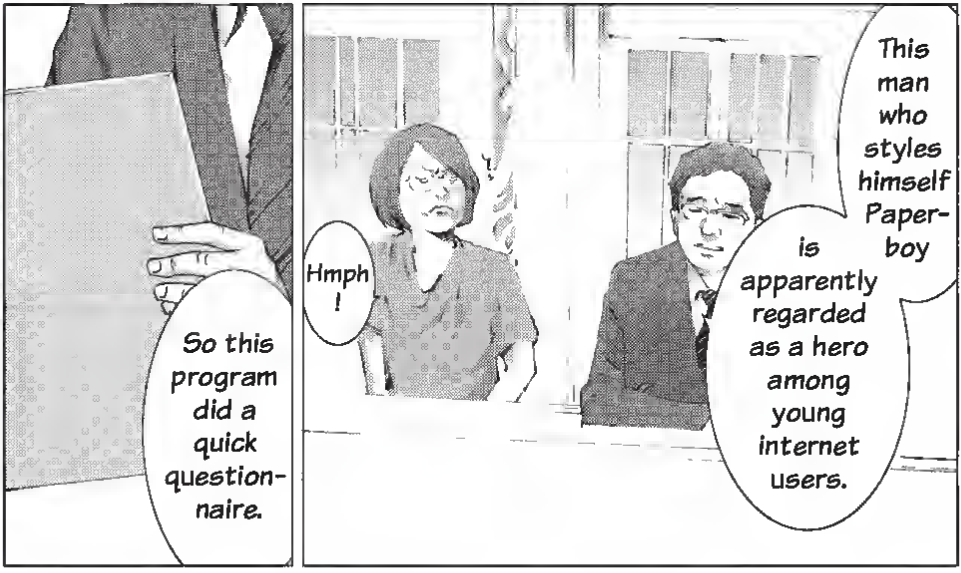
RA
AA
AAA
AA
GH
!!
AH!
POLICE
WHAMM
POLICE
KRAK
THUMP

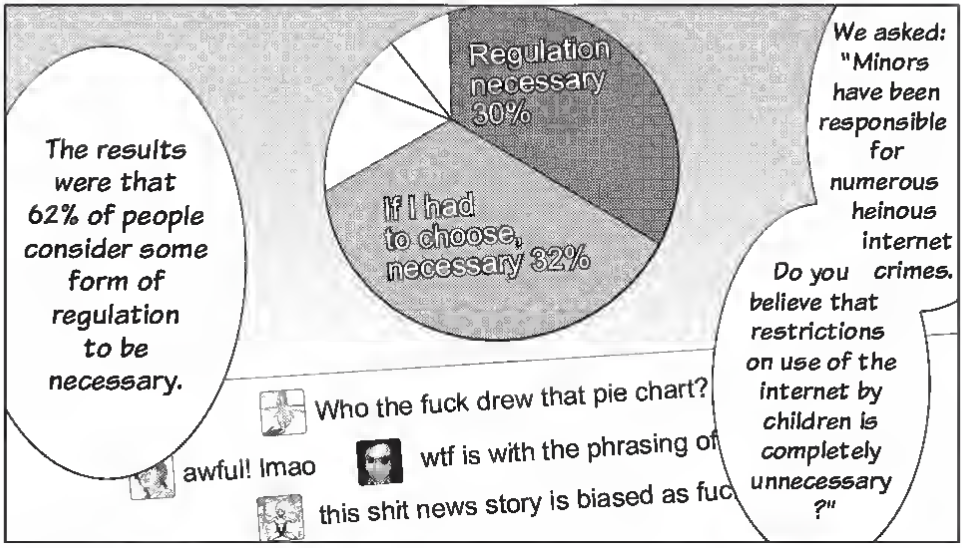
What ? I can't see shit!
They got some-one!
Huh What ? the?
Huh? Is that it?
lame lol
they didn't show a single thing. I want my time back!
whoa!
that sucked lulz
Comment View
Comment
A suspect has been appre-hended.
He seems to be a minor.
Boss.
other than the suspect.
Not a single person was injured
... Yes.

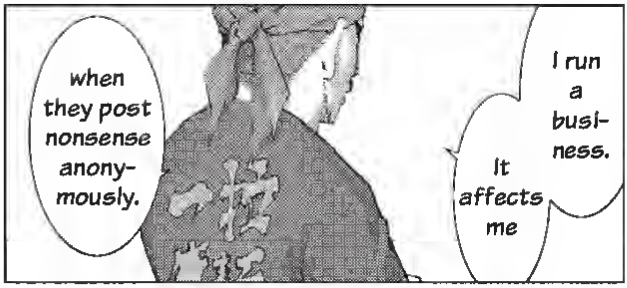
C'mon, let's go home.
Whatta waste of time.
Fuckin' dumb !
It's the moron cycle.
Morons rile up morons and new morons are born.
It truly was dumb.
Shinjuku Station
We have yet another incidence of a minor using the internet as a stage to showcase a malicious crime.

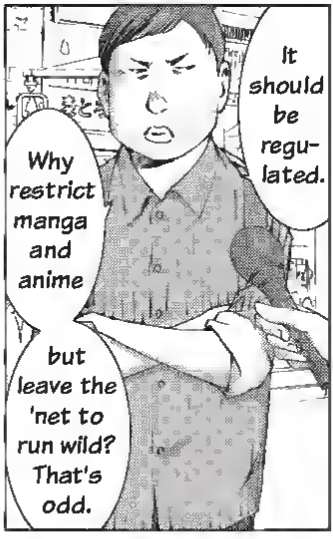

An unemployed 18-year-old used a net café in Tokyo to post a video threat,
stating, "I will kill someone at SJ Station tomorrow."
He has been arrested for forcible obstruction of business.


Questioning by the MPD revealed
that the youth "idolized Paperboy,"
and he "wanted to create a legend,"
among other things in his testimony.


This man who styles himself Paperboy is apparently regarded as a hero among young internet users.
Hmph!
So this program did a quick questionnaire.


We asked: "Minors have been responsible for numerous heinous internet crimes. Do you believe that restrictions on use of the internet by children is completely unnecessary?"
Regulation necessary 30%
If I had to choose, necessary 32%
The results were that 62% of people consider some form of regulation to be necessary.
Who the fuck drew that pie chart?
wtf is with the phrasing of
awful! lmao
this shit news story is biased as fuc

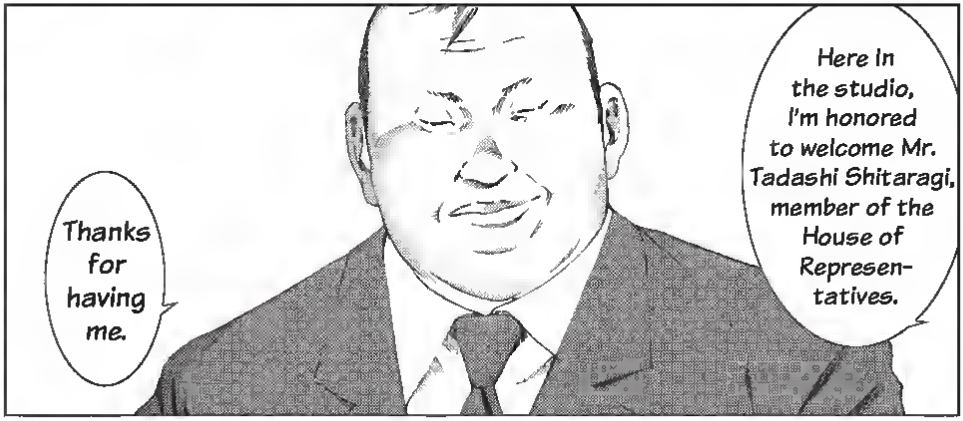

when they post nonsense anony-mously.
It affects me
I run a busi-ness.

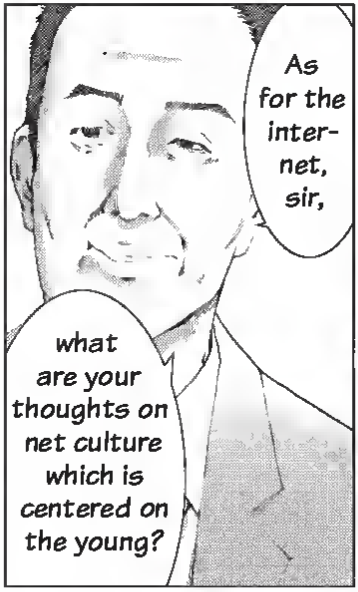

It should be regu-lated.
Why restrict manga and anime
but leave the 'net to run wild? That's odd.

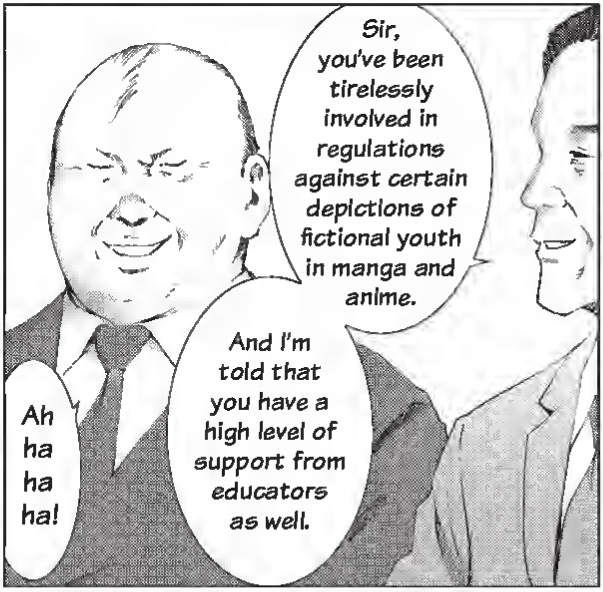
It really does scare me.
I'm against children being online.

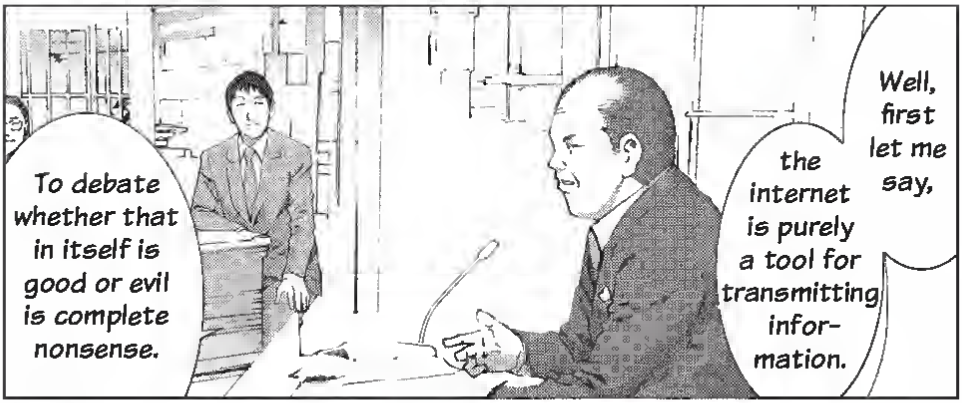
As you can see, people in the street
are calling for strong regulations to rein in internet culture that's running wild.

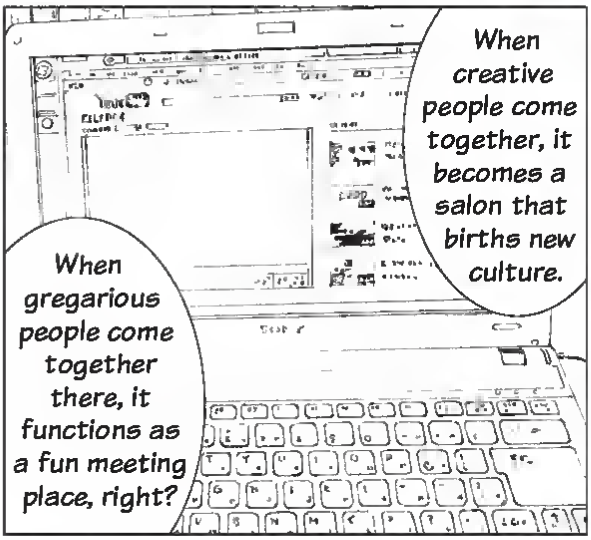
"Considering the Future of the Internet."
Now then, today we would like to bring you this special live debate:

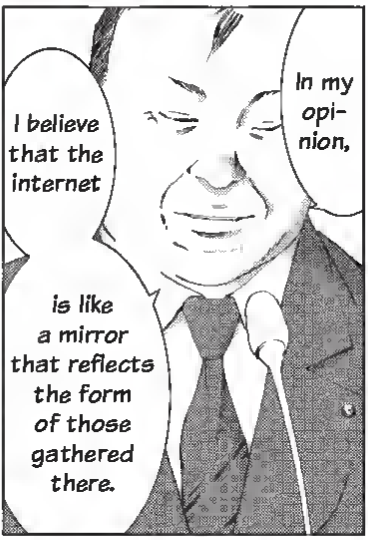

Thanks for having me.
Here in the studio, I'm honored to welcome Mr. Tadashi Shitaragi, member of the House of Representatives.


As for the internet, sir,
what are your thoughts on net culture which is centered on the young?


Sir, you've been tirelessly involved in regulations against certain depictions of fictional youth in manga and anime.
And I'm told that you have a high level of support from educators as well.
Ah ha ha ha!

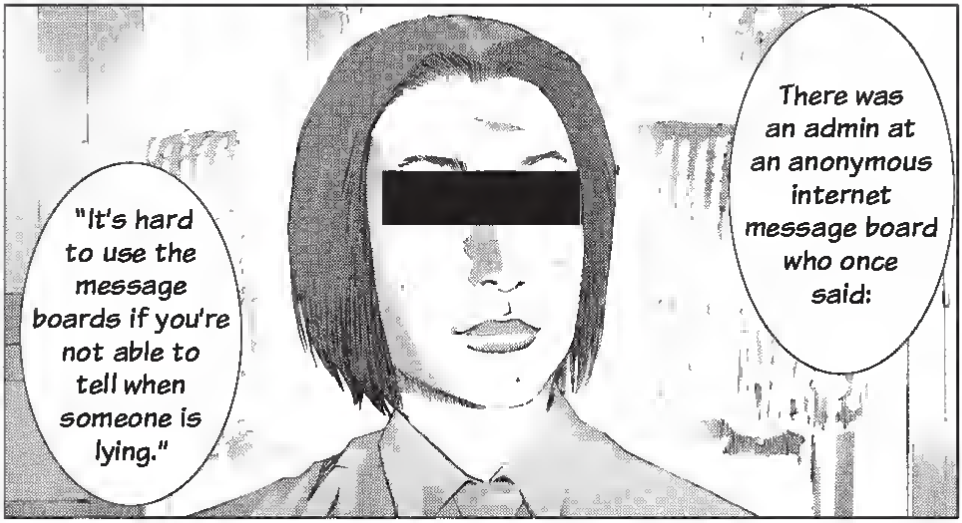

To debate whether that in itself is good or evil is complete nonsense.
Well, first let me say, the internet is purely a tool for transmitting information.


When creative people come together, it becomes a salon that births new culture.
When gregarious people come together there, it functions as a fun meeting place, right?

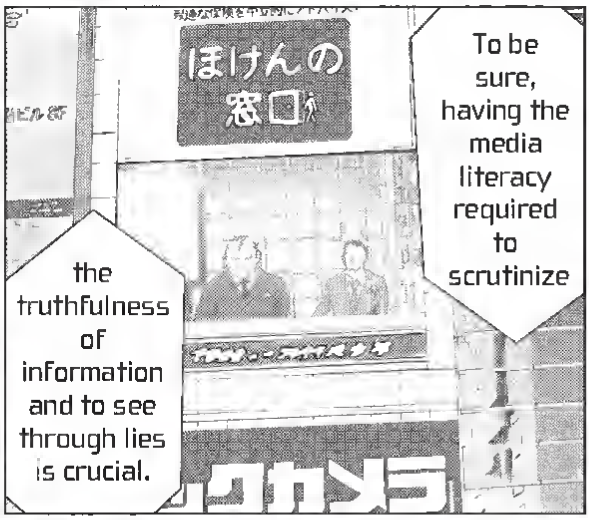

In my opinion, I believe that the internet is like a mirror that reflects the form of those gathered there.

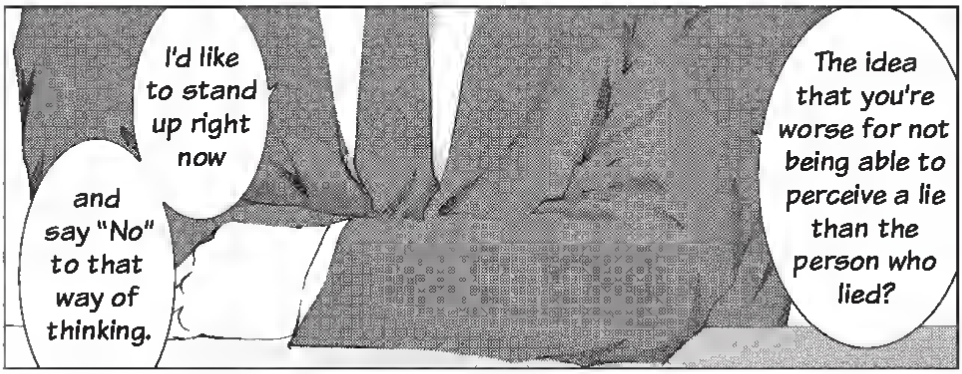
So, what about net culture in Japan?

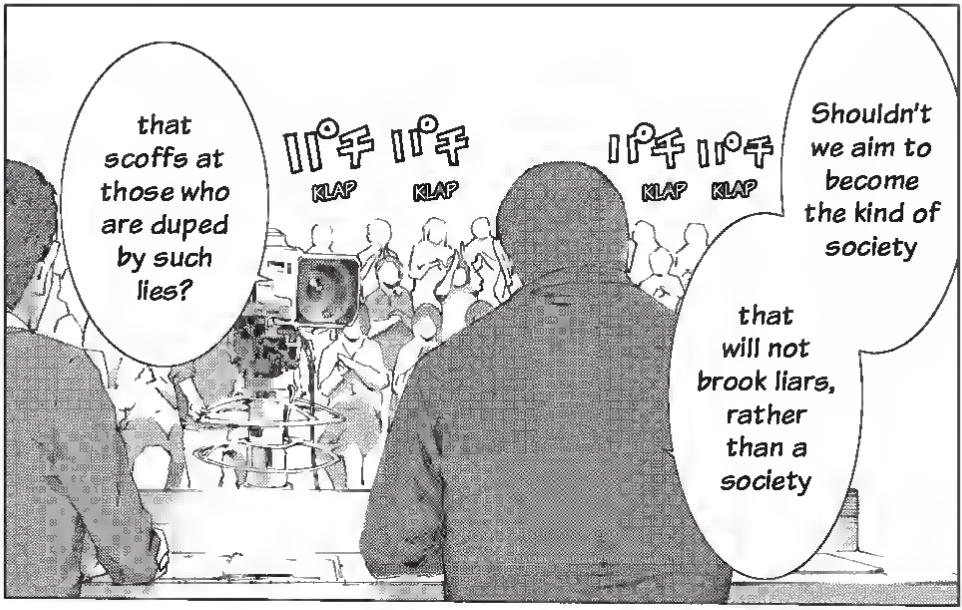
it becomes nothing more than graffiti on a bathroom wall.
But when it's used by creepy, jealous types,


"It's hard to use the message boards if you're not able to tell when someone is lying."
There was an admin at an anonymous internet message board who once said:

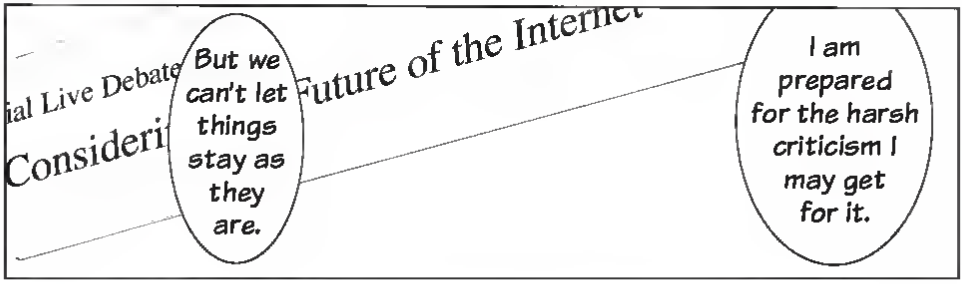
But this sidesteps the fact that those who tell lies in the first place are bad.

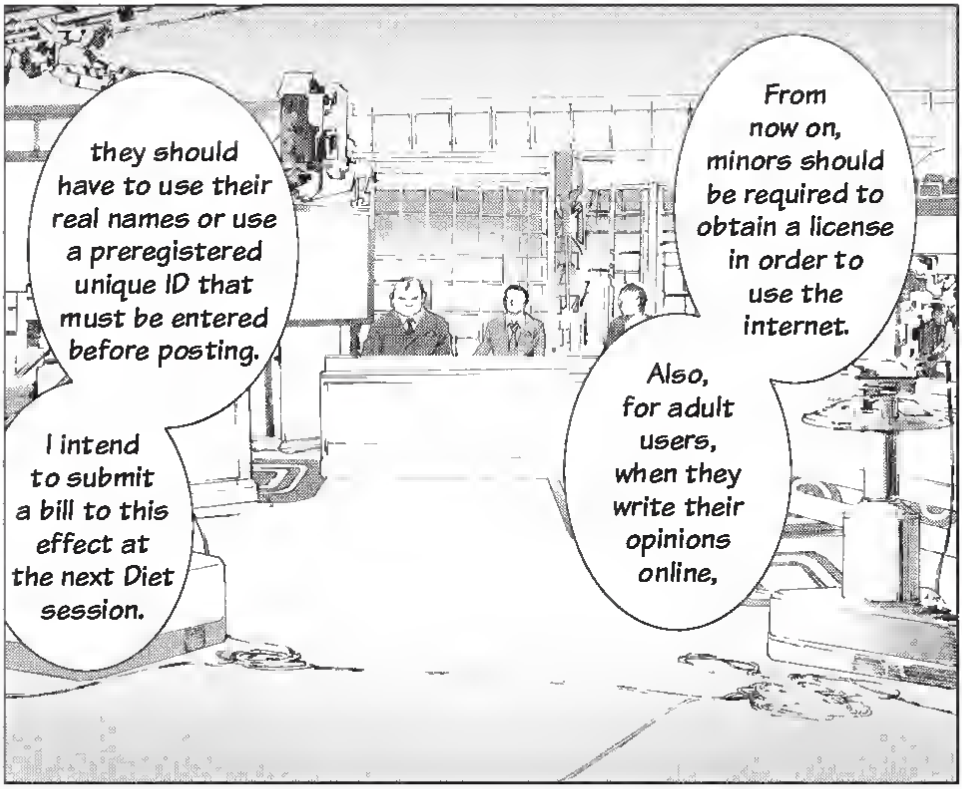

ほけんの窓口
To be sure, having the media literacy required to scrutinize
the truthfulness of information and to see through lies is crucial.


I'd like to stand up right now
and say "No" to that way of thinking.
The idea that you're worse for not being able to perceive a lie than the person who lied?

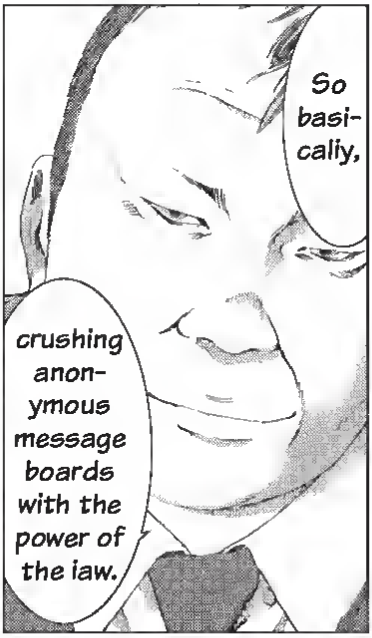

that scoffs at those who are duped by such lies?
パチ パチ
KLAP KLAP
パチ パチ
KLAP KLAP
Shouldn't we aim to become the kind of society
that will not brook liars, rather than a society

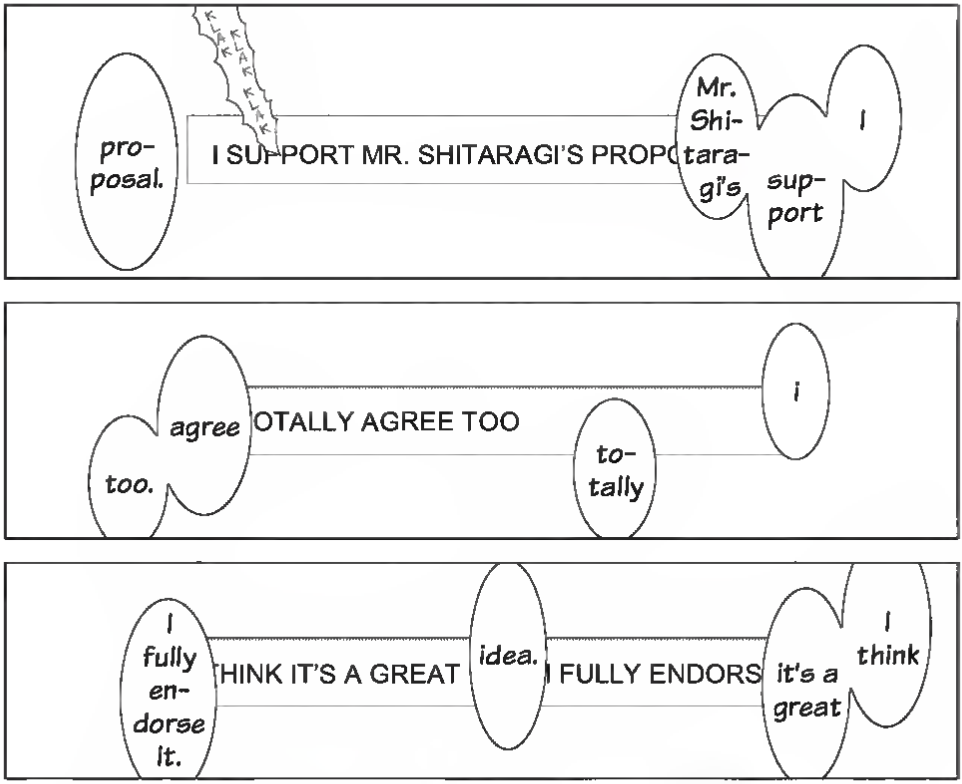
Anonymous@happening_
This show's so staged
Anonymous@happening_live
the audience are all shills too
Anonymous@happening_live
dumb farce

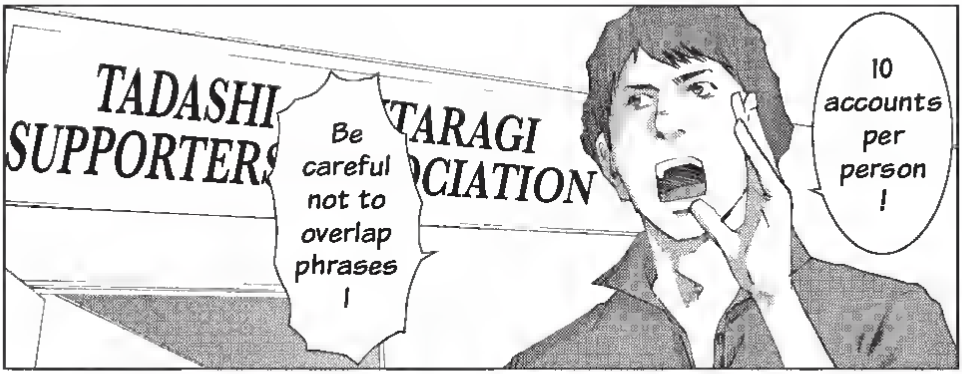

ial Live Debate
Considerii
uture of the Internet
But we can't let things stay as they are.
I am prepared for the harsh criticism I may get for it.


From now on, minors should be required to obtain a license in order to use the internet.
Also, for adult users, when they write their opinions online,
they should have to use their real names or use a preregistered unique ID that must be entered before posting.
I intend to submit a bill to this effect at the next Diet session.

KLAPKLAPKLAP

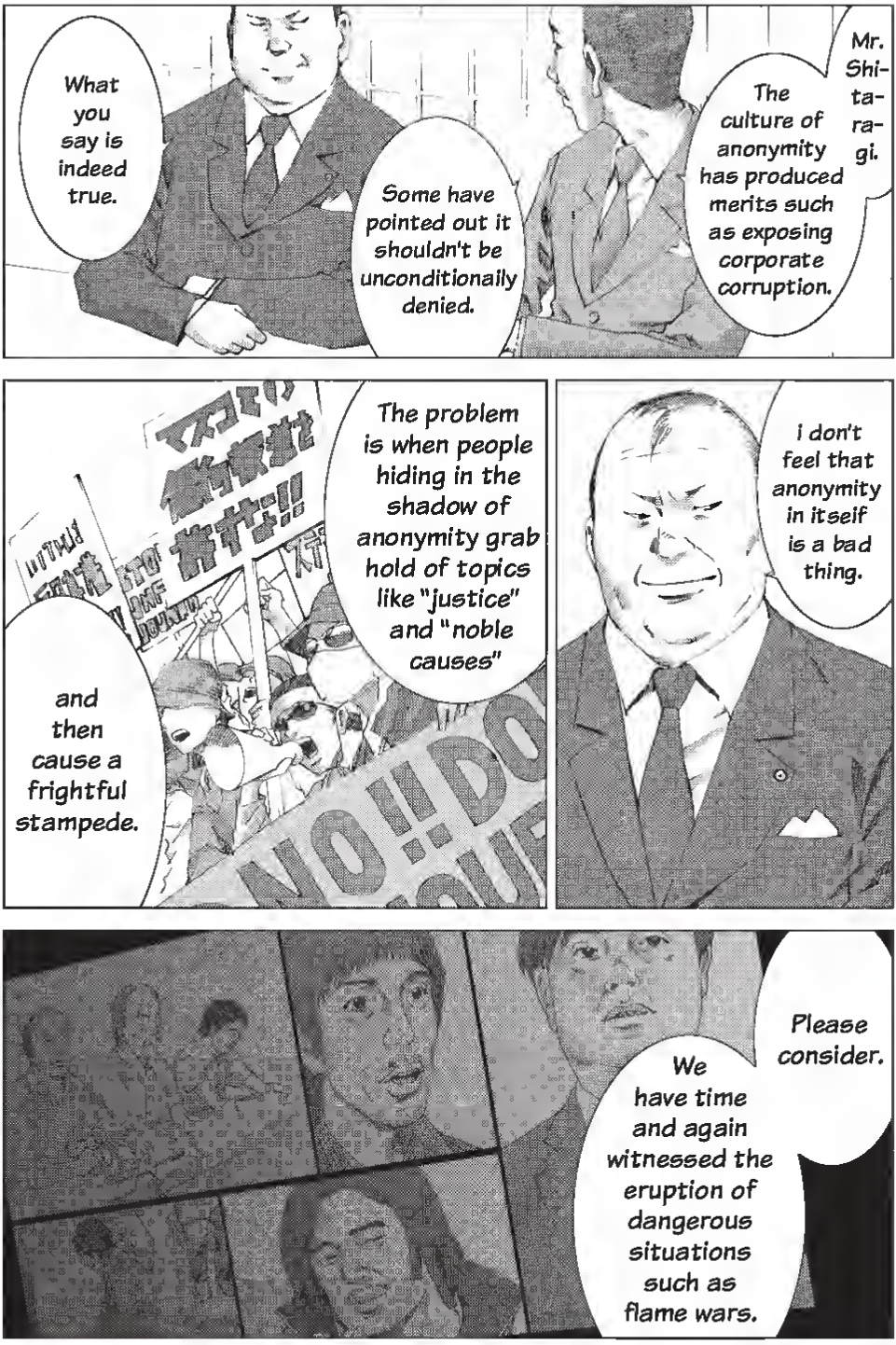

So basi-caliy,
crushing anon-ymous message boards with the power of the iaw.

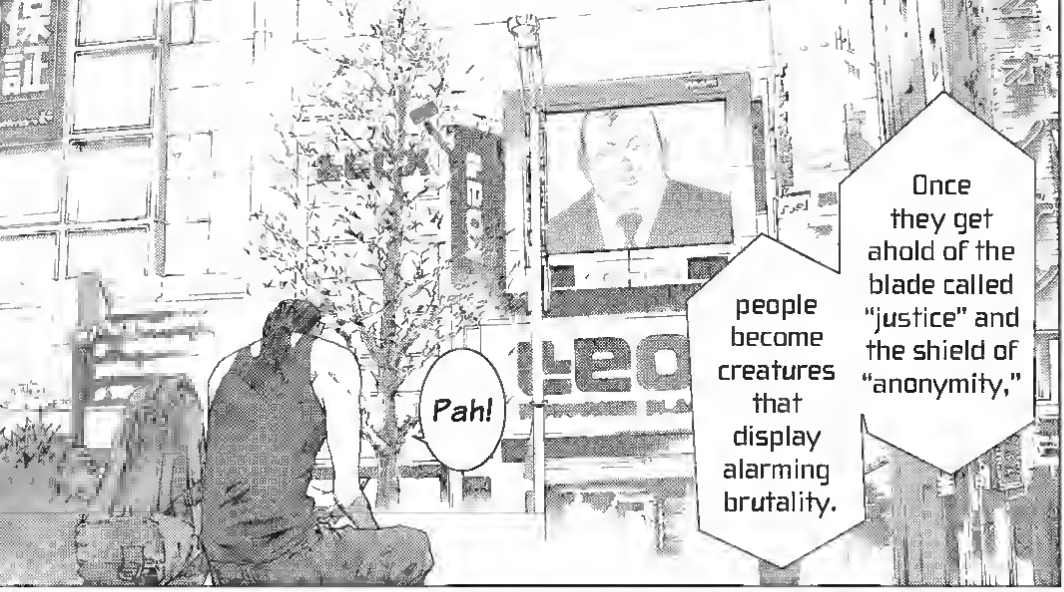

KLK KLK KLK
pro-posal.
I SUPPORT MR. SHITARAGI'S PROPO
Mr. Shi-tara-gi's
sup-port
I
agree too.
OTALLY AGREE TOO
to-tally
I
I fully en-dorse it.
THINK IT'S A GREAT
idea.
FULLY ENDORS
it's a great
I think
Example Messages
Use a specific job title
but net culture now is too
plient so I think it should be.
tendency for people to
ay whatever they want
because they're
anonymous
(focus on "think of th
children" my kids are
little so I worry abou
information they're
exercise! to on the net
Under-stood.
That'll make it more realistic.
Stick in some slightly reserved opinions, too.
Oh.
OK.
Hmm.
Best not go overboard with the "fully endorse" vibe.


TADASHI
SUPPORTERS
TARAGI
CIATION
Be careful not to overlap phrases !
10 accounts per person !

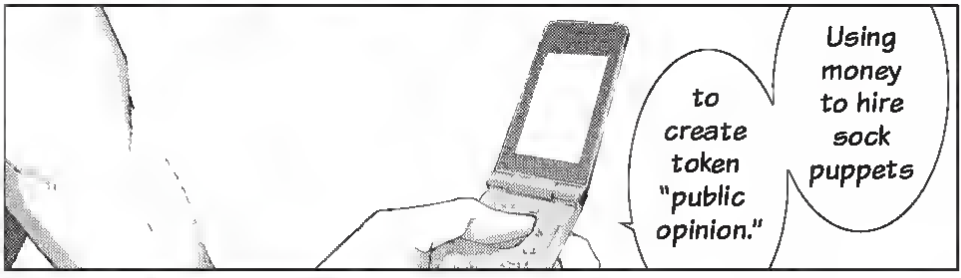
KLAK KLAK KLAK
YES, SIR!
Keep racking up those posts!

My kids are still little so I worry about what information they're exposed to online.
A 32-year-old homemaker from Tokyo writes:
Now then, we've been receiving lots of opinions from our viewers.

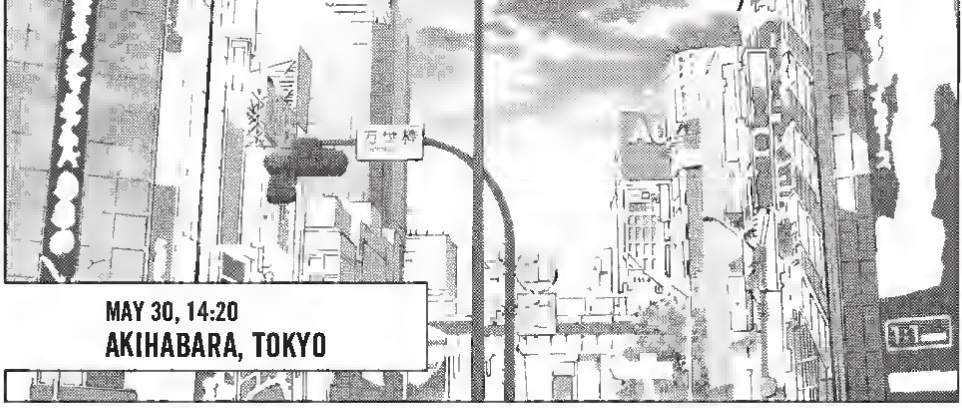

What you say is indeed true.
Some have pointed out it shouldn't be unconditionally denied.
The culture of anonymity has produced merits such as exposing corporate corruption.
Mr. Shitaragi.
The problem is when people hiding in the shadow of anonymity grab hold of topics like "justice" and "noble causes"
and then cause a frightful stampede.
I don't feel that anonymity in itself is a bad thing.
We have time and again witnessed the eruption of dangerous situations such as flame wars.
Please consider.


Pah!
people become creatures that display alarming brutality.
Once they get ahold of the blade called "justice" and the shield of "anonymity,"

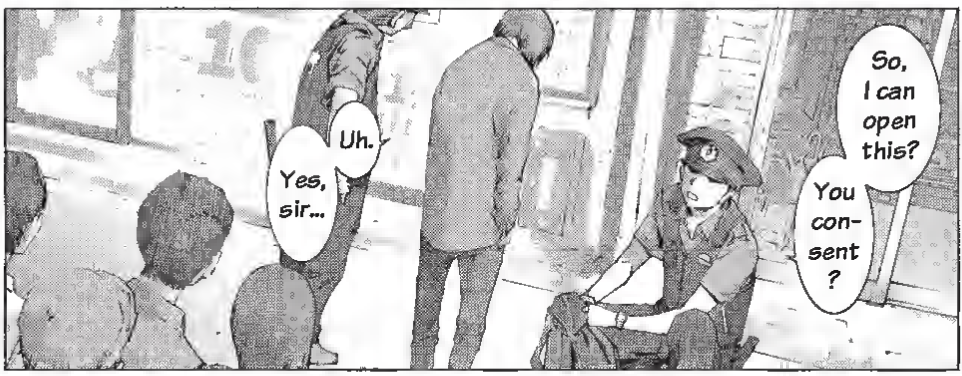
are using public airwaves to showcase a scripted farce...
and a politician wanting to ride the wave to make a name for himself
The media wanting to slam the net


to create token "public opinion."
Using money to hire sock puppets

Every-thing is happening just as you predicted 3 years ago.
Gates.


MAY 30, 14:20
AKIHABARA, TOKYO

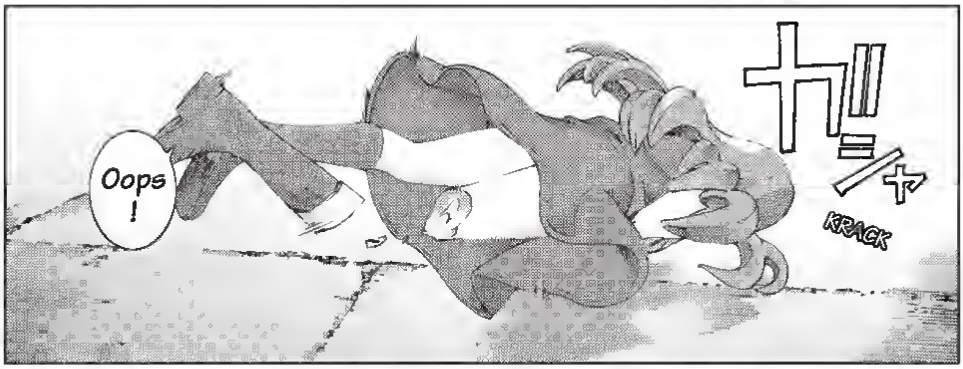
HUB BUB
HUB BUB

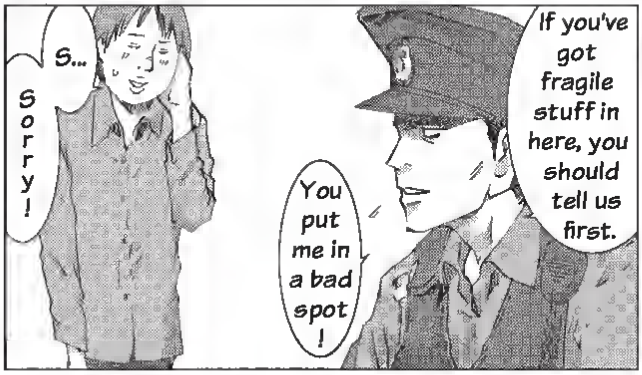

So, I can open this?
You con-sent ?
Uh.
Yes, sir...

If he's got a blade in there, then he's a goner, for real.
Yikes !

What's up?
Cops tryin' to score points.
Stopping mousy guys like that and questioning 'em.

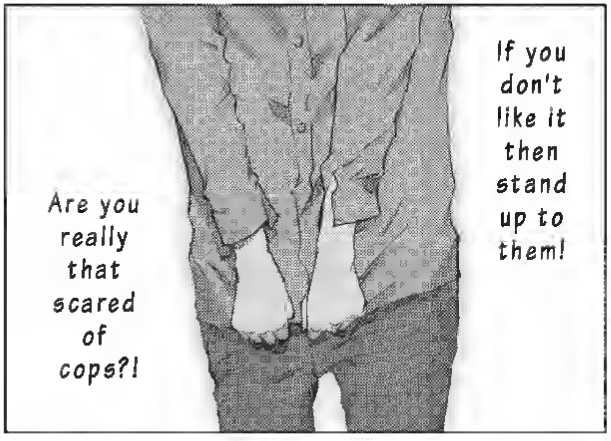
...
GIGGLE
The sad sack ...
Oh, my ...!
Okay. Anime DVDs.
One.
Two.
Three discs.
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP


Oops!
KRACK


S...
Sorry!
You put me in a bad spot!
If you've got fragile stuff in here, you should tell us first.

Aaaw
Looks like it broke.

Can't believe he did that ...
That's mean ...

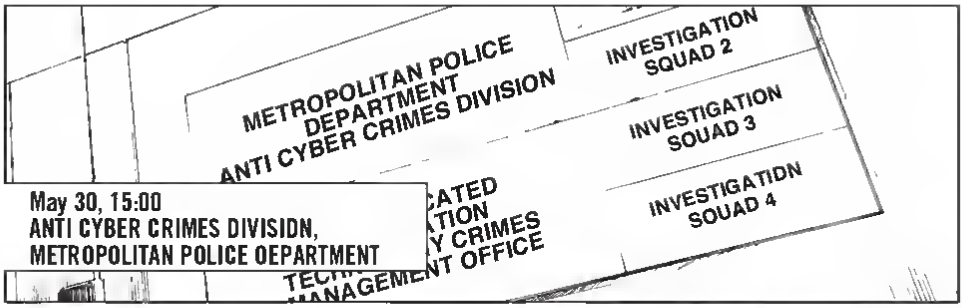

Are you really that scared of cops?!
If you don't like it then stand up to them!

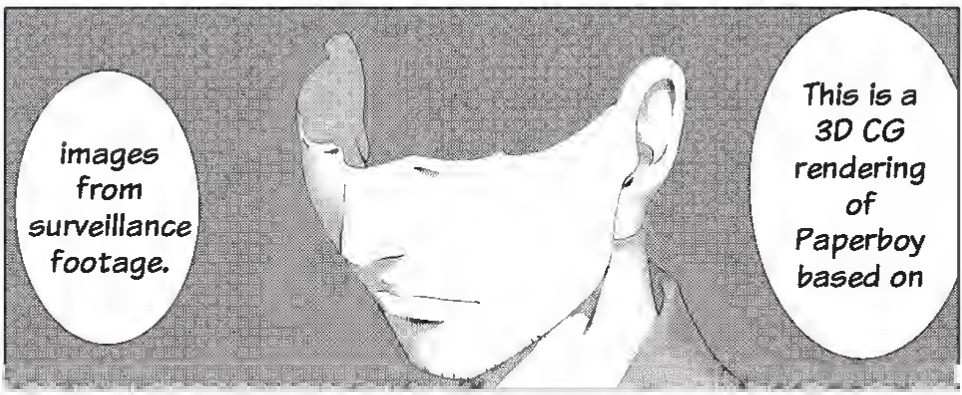
What are you doing ...

someday they'll come to rob you of something even more important.
If you just laugh like an idiot and let them get away with it,
SNICKER
Should I tweet this...?
Oh, stop! The poor guy...
SNAP

YOU DUMB FUCK !!
GET MAD !!

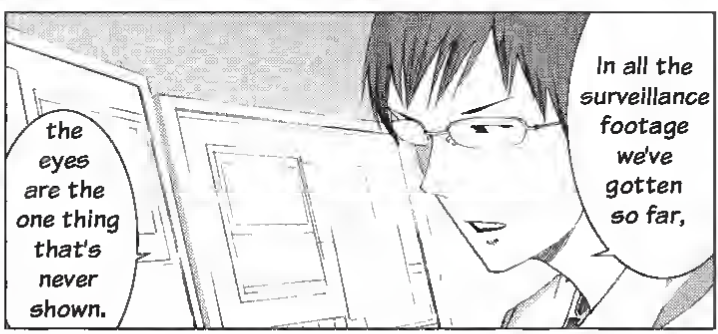
DASH
HEY, YOU! HALT!!
Aack !!
Move!


METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANTI CYBER CRIMES DIVISION
INVESTIGATION SQUAD 2
INVESTIGATION SOUAD 3
INVESTIGATIDN SOUAD 4
May 30, 15:00
ANTI CYBER CRIMES DIVISIDN,
METROPOLITAN POLICE OEPARTMENT


images from surveillance footage.
This is a 3D CG rendering of Paperboy based on

Lieu-tenant!
Eye-witness intel from Mansei-bashi Pre-cinct!

As I thought, without the eyes,
It's still not con-clusive.

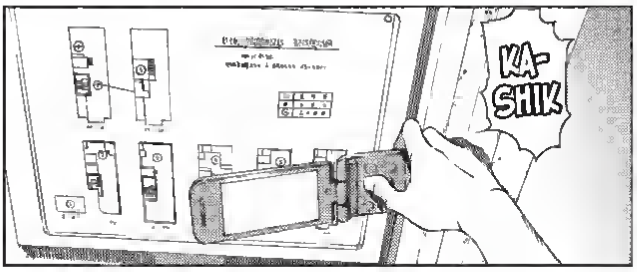

the eyes are the one thing that's never shown.
In all the surveillance footage we've gotten so far,

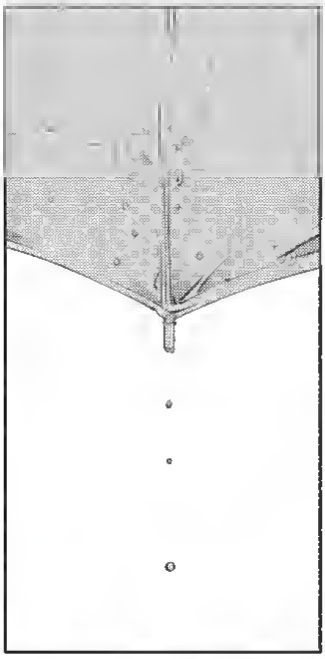
On a street in Akihabara 30 minutes ago
they reportedly chased a man closely resembling Paper-boy.
Chased ?
...
Past tense. So basically, he got away.
Uhm ...
So it would seem.
There's no reason to lose heart.
Boss.
yet another huge mistake.
Paperboy has made

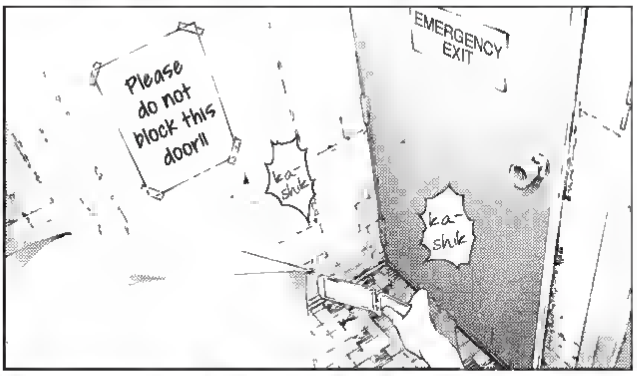
If he caused a disturbance in a place like that,
After the multiple stabbing incident in 2008,
there are so many cameras around Akihabara now that there's hardly any blind spots.
then Paperboy
is as good as identified.

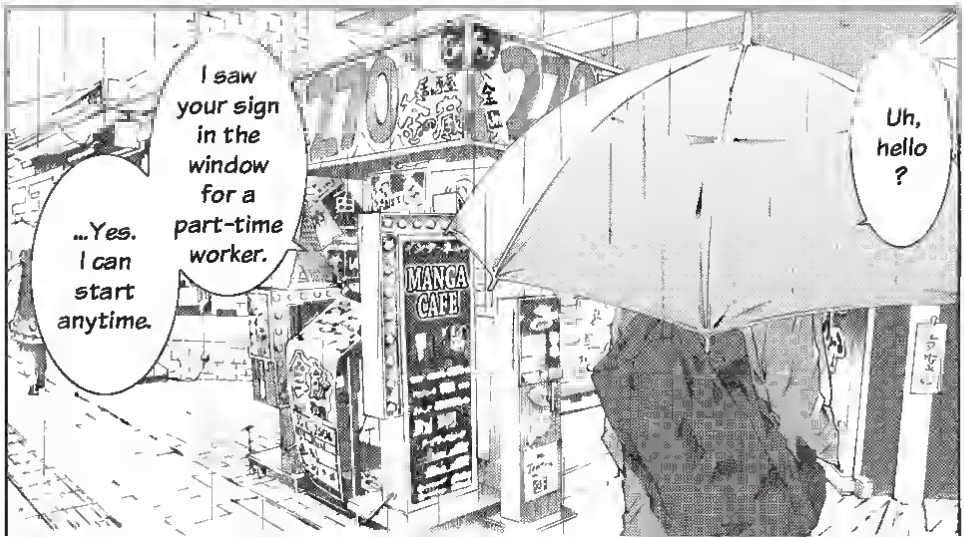
File 013

INTERNET & COMICS
5F
ZHAAAA


KA-SHIK

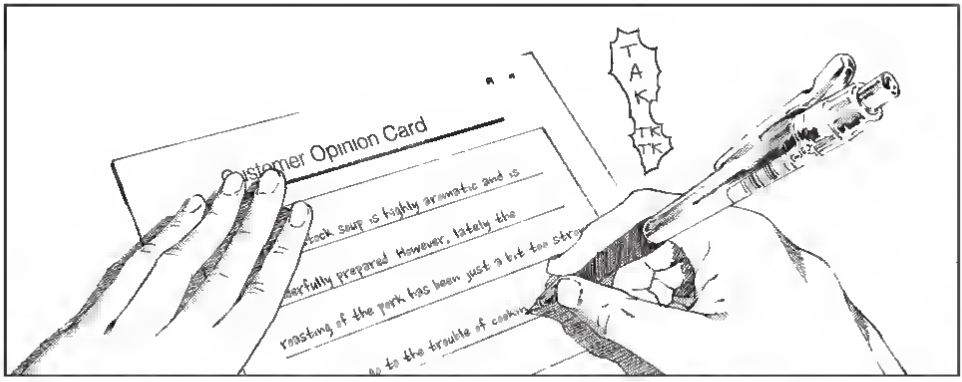


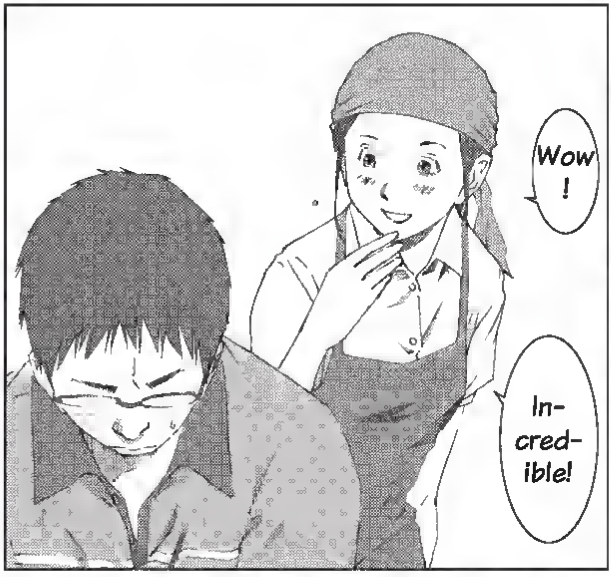

EMERGENCY EXIT
Please do not block this door!!
ka-shik
ka-shik


I saw your sign in the window for a part-time worker.
...Yes. I can start anytime.
Uh, hello ?
MANGA CAFE

File
013

Takamura Ramen
Soy sauce flavor with egg and leeks. Here you are!
Sorry for the wait!
May 31, 12:15
K CITY, IWATE PREFECTURE
Hm ...?
Mm ...
Roast pork ?
Bit of an odd flavor mixed in there ...
The soy looks just right today.
SHF
KLIK


Customer Opinion Card
TAK
TK
TK


Wow!
Incredible!

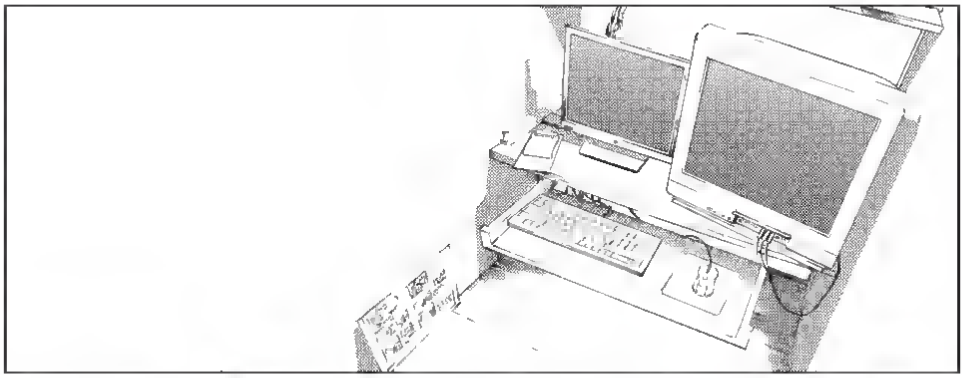
Dad, he says the pork is overdone.
Really?
Hm?
I thought so, too.
Yeah.

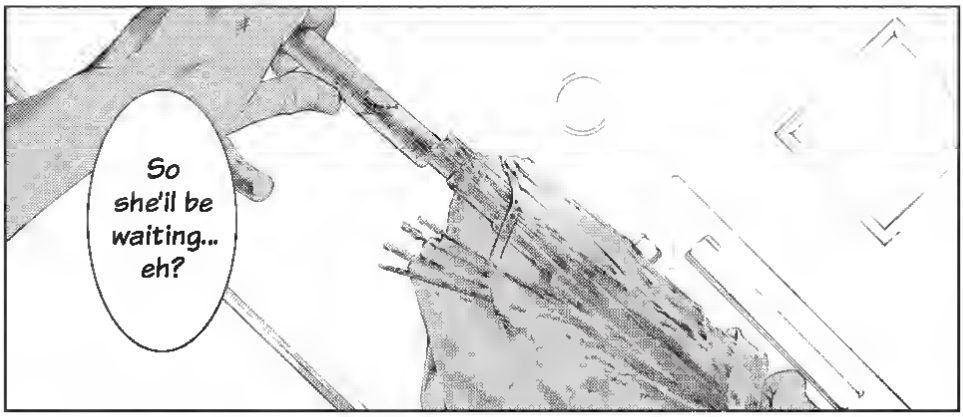
Oh... er...
No... well.
Not really, but ...
I am one of the top 100 reviewers in Japan's biggest ramen review magazine. I'm proud to say it's no exaggeration that I've uncovered great restaurants in the Tohoku region in particular which have since become
Sir ...
You're a real ramen expert, aren't you.
SHHHHHHHH
Thanks for the meal.
I know.
Please wait just a sec.
...?
Oh,
it's raining...
THUP

but if you'd like...
This is all we've got,
But ...
Huh ...?
Uh... no!
Not... Tht...
S... Sorry!
This is more trouble than help...
AH!
WILT

...W-Well!
I-I'll bor-row it... then.
N... N-N-Next time... I'll bring it back.
Oh! You don't need to do that.
It's totally falling apart!
... No.

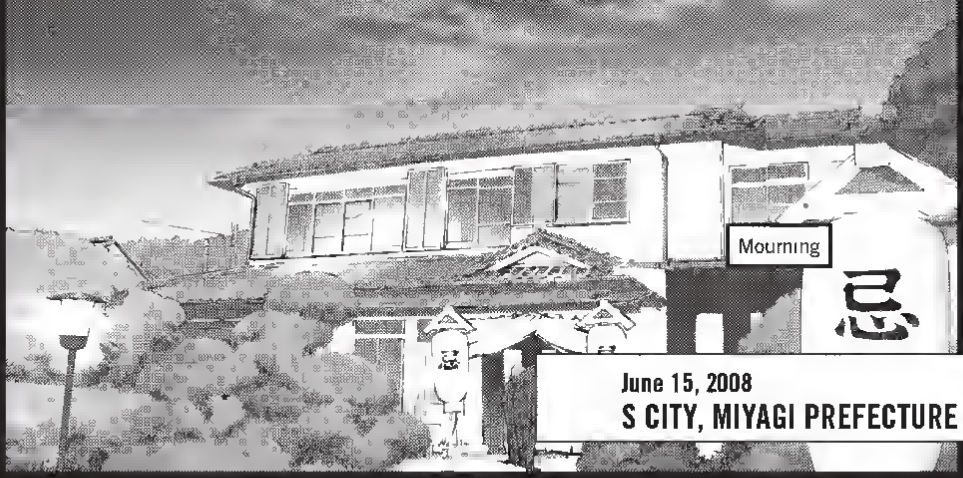
I-I don't know when it'll be...
But some-day ... I will definitely give it back.
Please come again, okay?
Well, I'll be waiting.

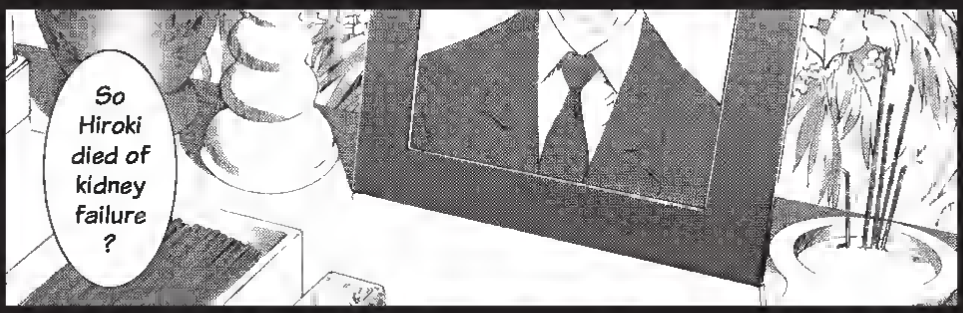



So she'll be waiting... eh?

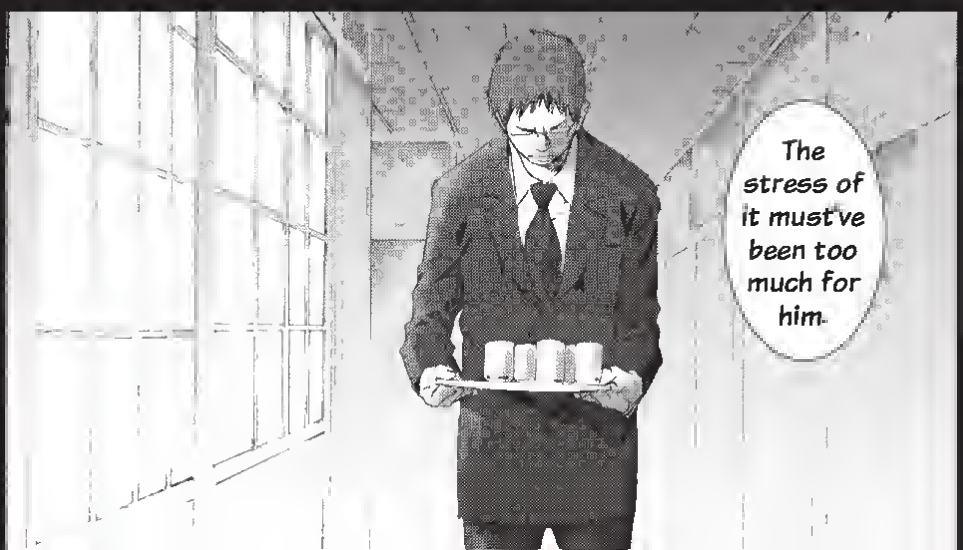
How nice it is
to have someone waiting for you.

even if it's worth no more than the price of a single plastic umbrella...
Even if it's
just a wait-ress's greeting,
like I'm glad to be alive.
It still makes me feel


Mourning
June 15, 2008
S CITY, MIYAGI PREFECTURE


So Hiroki died of kidney failure?

And the son's become a shut-in.
That's far too young...
He was only fifty, no?

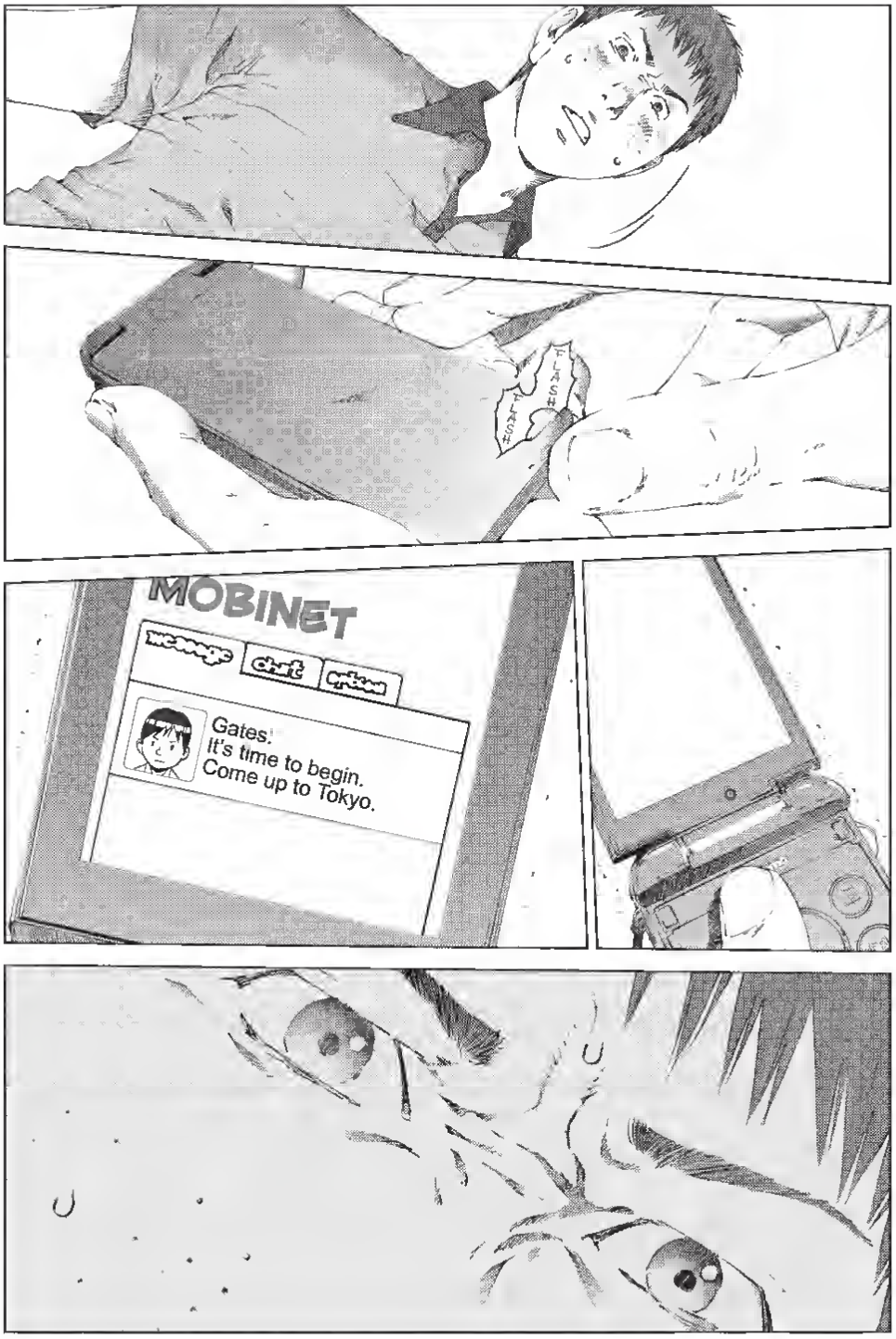

The stress of it must've been too much for him.

And he hasn't shown his face once during the whole wake.
What is he thinking ?

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP THIS UP?!
KOICHI !!

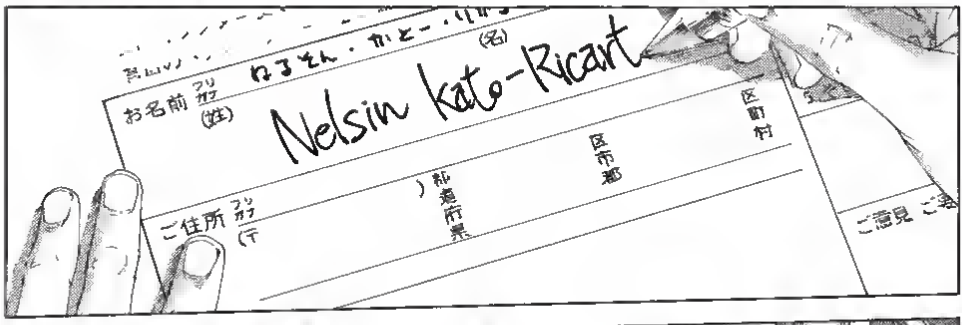
All day long just playing these disgusting games !!
RUSTLE
Get out !
I feel like I'm losing my mind !!

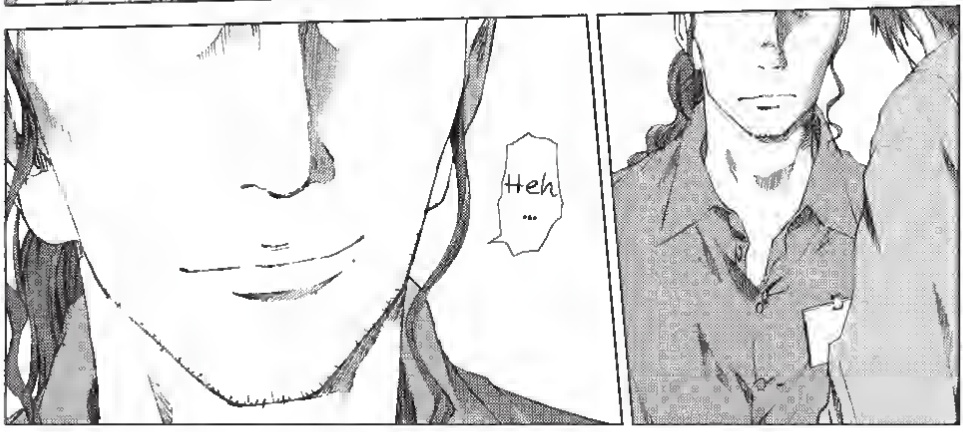
sob
sob
sob
sob
Thank you for everything.
Ngh...


FLASH
FLASH
MOBINET
Gates.
It's time to begin.
Come up to Tokyo.

June 1, 16:00
A CITY, KANAGAWA PREFECTURE
CAUTION
AUTO-
MATIC
DOORS
CAUTION
AUTOMATIC DOORS
WHIRR
DO
Wel-
come,
sir!

Internet booth. One hour, please.
Do you have a member card, sir?
No... It's my first time here.
Ah, please write your name and address here.

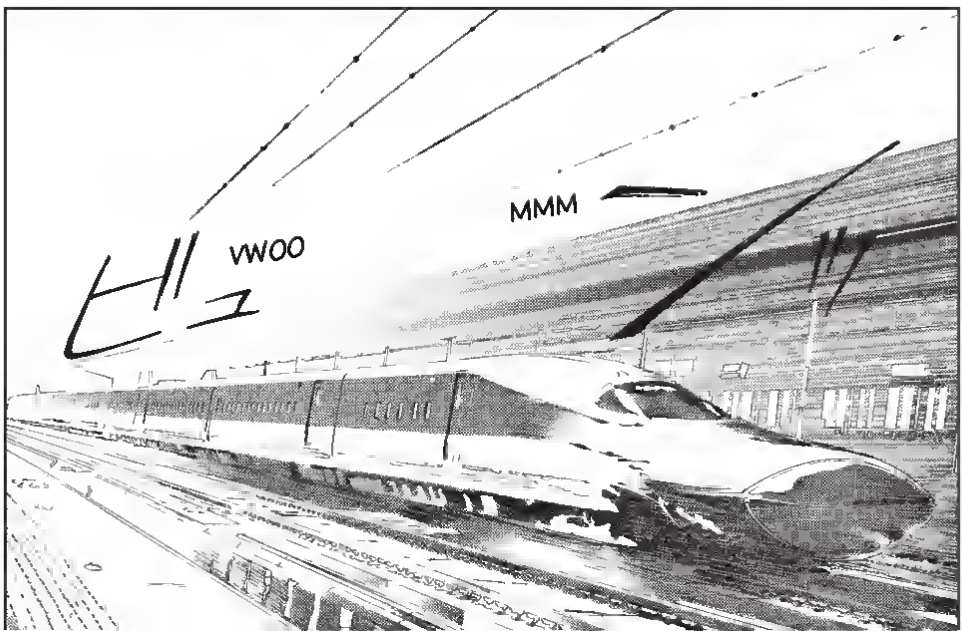

Nelsin kato-Ricart


Heh...

Yeah.
What's the deal, Gates?
Using that name again, huh?
SHRIP
Should I get rid of the carbon copy?
No... leave it.
That, too, has a purpose.
I see.
Got it.

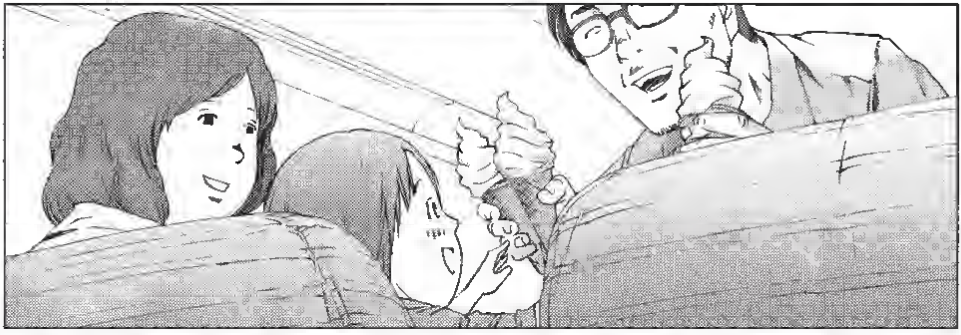
Here you go.
Could I get a "blanket"?
Thanks.
Enjoy your time here, sir.
KLIK
TNK
SNFF
SNFF

Let's begin.
Now then ...
20


VWOO
MMM

The man behind us has an umbrella!
Hey, hey!
Mommy!
Good point...
What am I doing?
Hey, now.
Stop that.
Is it raining?
Hey, hey, mister, what're you doing?
ザーッ
still doing this?
Why am I

Back then...
Yes, at that time,
if I hadn't accepted that shovel



I'm sure I'd have
a different future ahead of me...

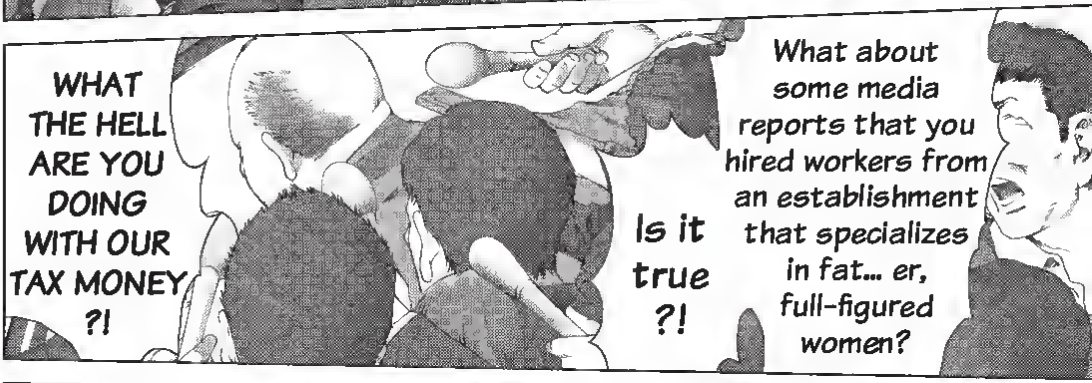
PROPHECY

Tadashi Shitaragi, member of the House of Representatives.
The next target will be
in an attempt to rob the internet of its freedom.
INTERNET REHABILI
RDAD MAP
RATIFICATION OF ACTA
CRIMINALIZATION OF ILLEGAL DOWNLOADING
RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF THE INTERNET BY MINORS
FULL-SCALE CONTROLS ON ANONYMOUS MESSAGE BOARDS
TOWARDS PEACE OF MI
A SAFE NET CULTURE
Under the pretense of rehabilitating the internet, he's proposing a ridiculous bill
So that, for example, he can hide scandals like this.

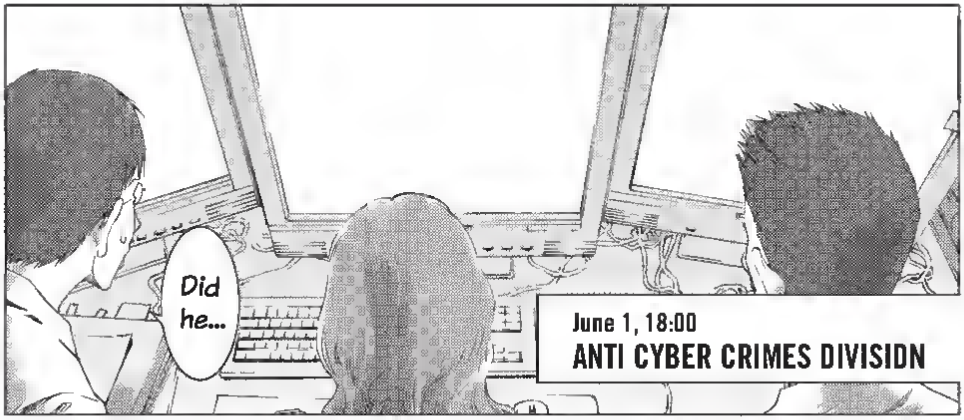
File
014
Repre-
sentative
Shitaragi
Tadashi.
Within
the next
72 hours,
I will
murder
you.
I hereby
sentence
this
piece of
scum.

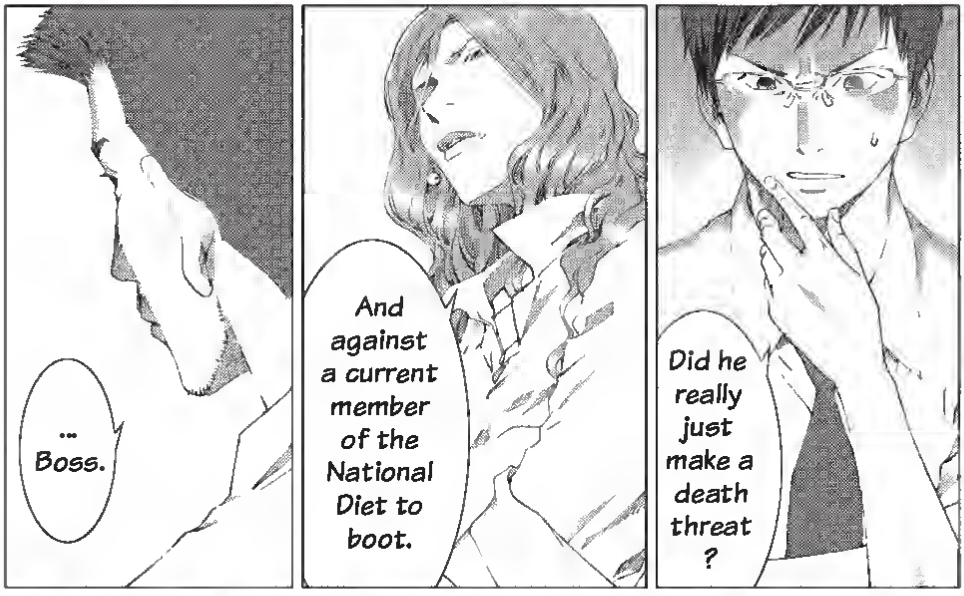
For real?
It's a death threat, yo.
Shitaragi... Isn't that
the old fart who's been prattling on about people using real names online?
6, 248
Likes 232
Dislikes 42
Isn't it just another copy-cat?
He'll get his!
No, it looks like the real deal.
125, 923
Likes 928
Dislikes 122
News Flash
Death Threat Against Diet Member
Tadashi Shitaragi

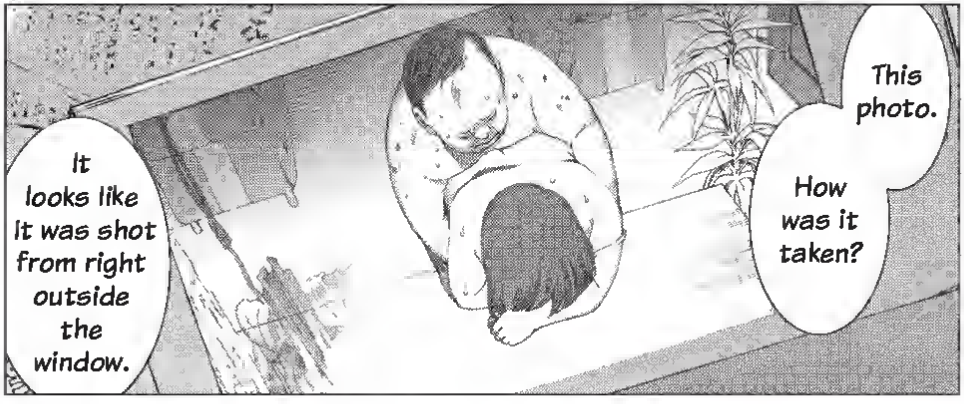
Hey, move it!
Clear the way !!
SIR !!
ANY COMMENT, MR. SHITARAGI ?
How does it feel to have a death threat issued against you?!


WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING WITH OUR TAX MONEY ?!
Is it true ?!
What about some media reports that you hired workers from an establishment that specializes in fat... er, full-figured women?

We're replacing the entire front page!!
Forget that crap!
Huh ?
Uchikawa's home-run?


Did he...
June 1, 18:00
ANTI CYBER CRIMES DIVISIDN


... Boss.
And against a current member of the National Diet to boot.
Did he really just make a death threat ?


It looks like it was shot from right outside the window.
This photo.
How was it taken?

Plus I can see traces of detergent that hadn't been squeegeed off yet.
I think there's no question that this was taken by a cleaner as he was working.
There's a high-access rig and ropes reflected in the glass.
we may be able to pin down
and cross-check the security camera footage from Akihabara last week,
If we trace back the cleaning company for this building
Nelsin Kato-Ricarte's true identity ...

JUNE 1, 21:15
Come on, Seii-chiro!
Not over there, here!
WOOF!
PANT PANT
Good boys.
There, there.

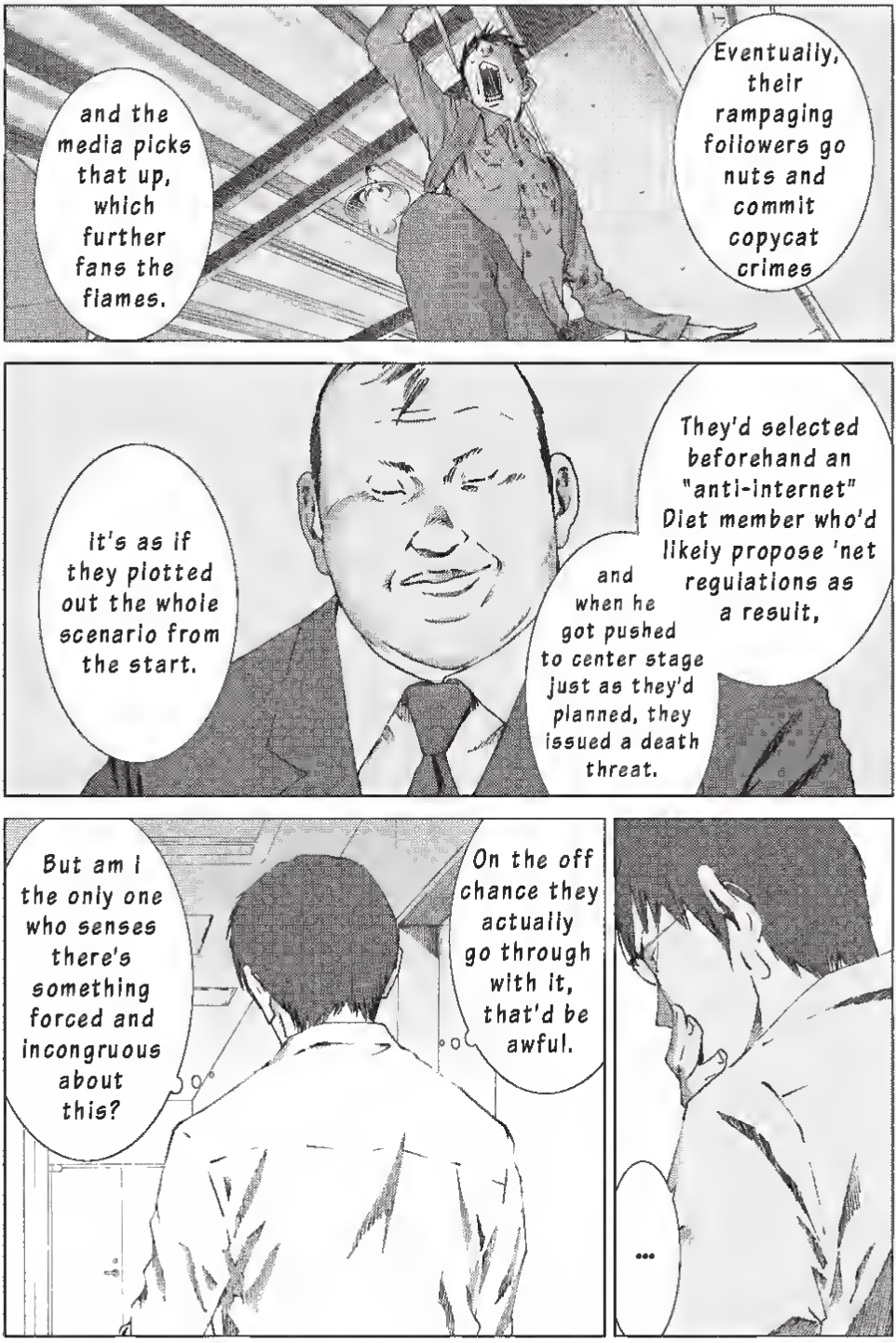
Ah!
Boss!
What are you doing?
Oka-moto.
Ichi-kawa told me about this.
It's this thing that helps care for pets.
You have pet dogs?
Uh... Yeah.
In fact,
I can use it to check on the room they're in
and I can even feed them, too.
GRAASH
BEEP
FOOD

But...
with only an online con-nection
there are limits to what you can do.
Wow.
That's handy.
I'm responsible for these guys
so I can't be at work for extended periods.
Ah.
So that's why you don't like all-nighters.

Well, we have to prepare counter-measures based on that assumption, at least.
Boss.
Do you think Paperboy will make good on this death threat?
This is just my personal speculation,
but I think this criminal has some other objective in mind.
Ah... no,
it's not like I have any particular ideas.
It's just... Something you said to Chief Matsumoto before
has been snagging at my mind this whole time.
Other?
Like what, for example?

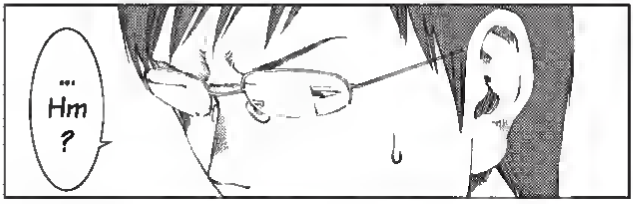
The moment when you believe with absolute conviction that something will benefit someone
it's possible to carry out actions that transcend personal gain.
so it didn't seem to hit home with him.
Ichikawa is a pragmatist
But I couldn't help but feel
your words somehow pierced the very core of this case.
...
ズズズ
SLURP
Did I say that ...?
JOLT
Not good?
And why are you eating someone else's ramen?!

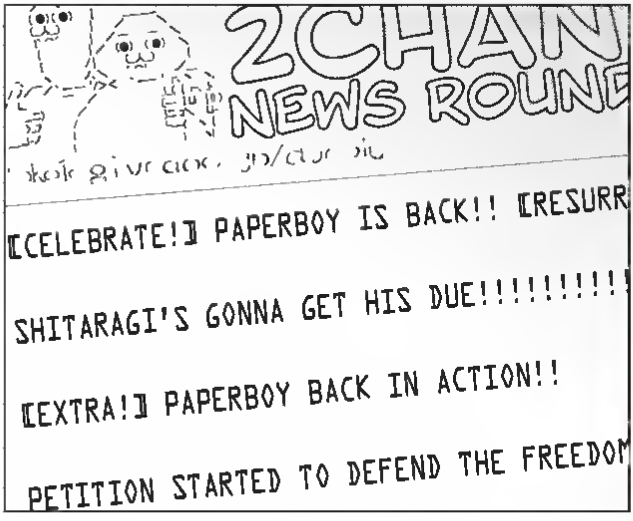
It seems I have to reconsider this idea.
KLIK
KLAK
KLIK
An infantile criminal who just wants to be exalted on the internet ...
JUNE 1, 21:30
They used incidents that were notorious on the internet
to spark their own incidents that further agitate the dangerous side of the internet.
Come to think of it,
they may have been purposely playing the fool from the start.
while simultaneously sowing seeds of wariness and fear towards the 'net among the public.
These actions cause supporters to flock towards them

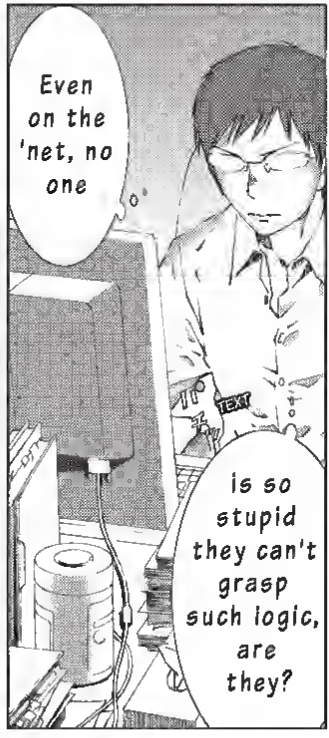

Eventually, their rampaging followers go nuts and commit copycat crimes
and the media picks that up, which further fans the flames.
They'd selected beforehand an "anti-internet" Diet member who'd likely propose 'net regulations as a result,
and when he got pushed to center stage just as they'd planned, they issued a death threat.
it's as if they plotted out the whole scenario from the start.
On the off chance they actually go through with it, that'd be awful.
But am I the only one who senses there's something forced and incongruous about this?
...

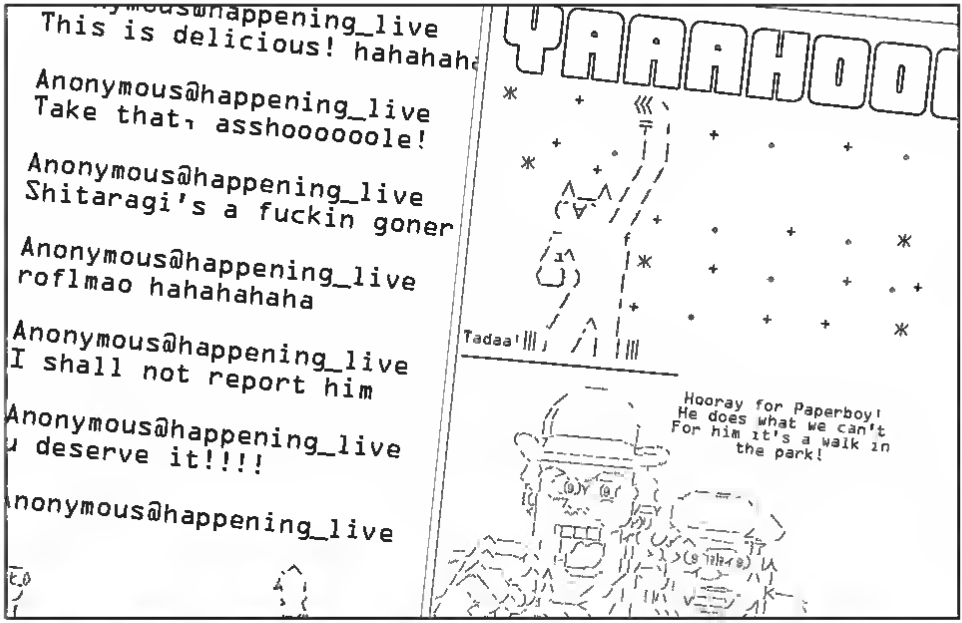
But what'll they get by killing him?
Sure, Shitaragi's pet policy that would remove anonymity from the 'net is ludicrous.

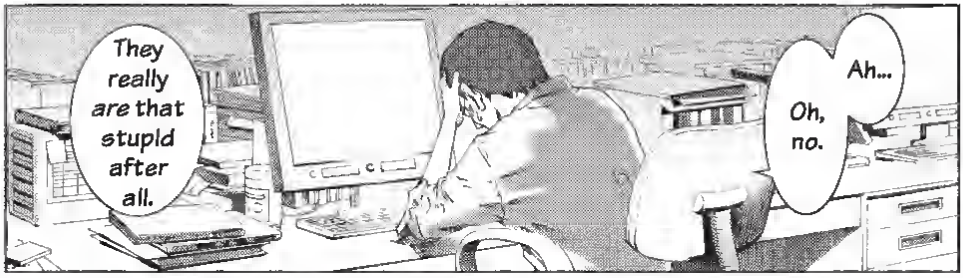
it'd have the opposite effect.
that's a naïve idea.
if they say they're defending the freedom of the 'net,

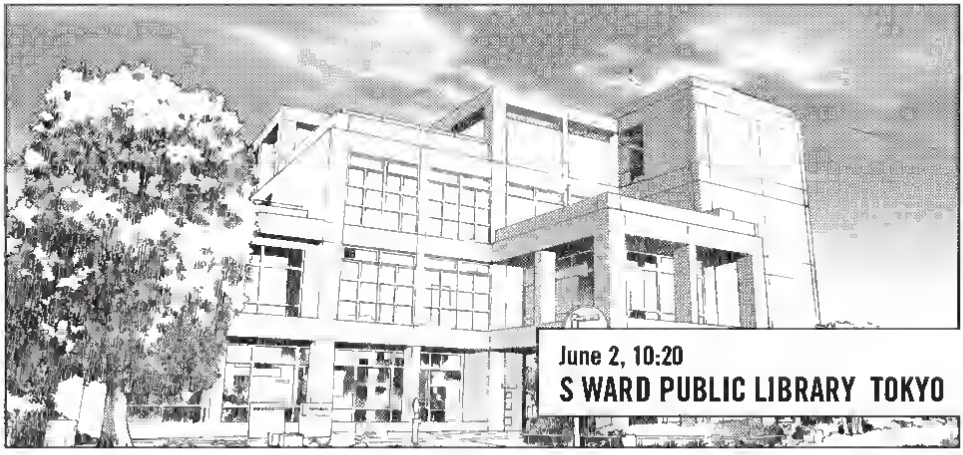

... Hm ?

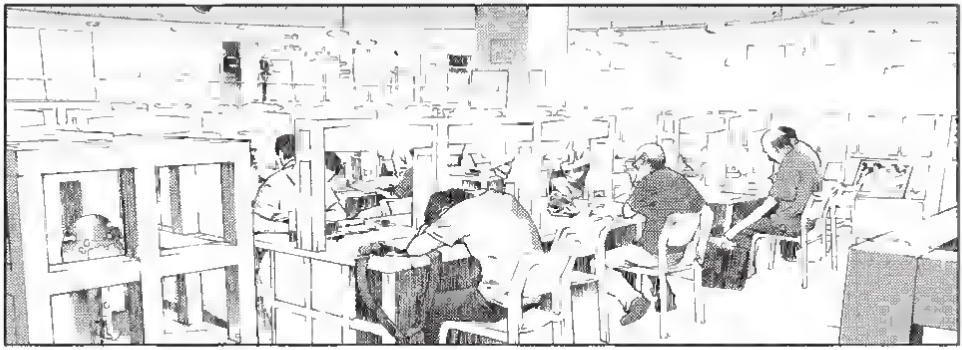

2CHAN
NEWS ROUND
[[CELEBRATE!]] PAPERBOY IS BACK!! [[RESURR
SHITARAGI'S GONNA GET HIS DUE!!!!!!!!!!
[[EXTRA!]] PAPERBOY BACK IN ACTION!!
PETITION STARTED TO DEFEND THE FREEDOM

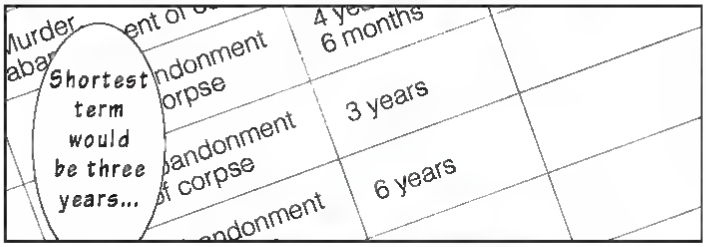

Even on the 'net, no one
is so stupid they can't grasp such logic, are they?

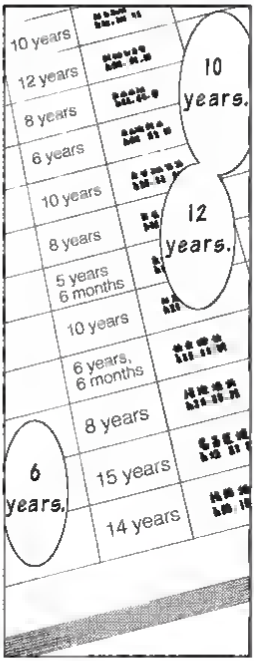

This is delicious! hahahaha
Anonymous@happening_live
Take that, asshoooooole!
Anonymous@happening_live
Shitaragi's a fuckin goner
Anonymous@happening_live
roflmao hahahahaha
Anonymous@happening_live
I shall not report him
Anonymous@happening_live
deserve it!!!!
YAAAHOO
Tadaa!
Hooray for Paperboy!
He does what we can't
For him it's a walk in
the park!


They really are that stupid after all.
Ah...
Oh, no.

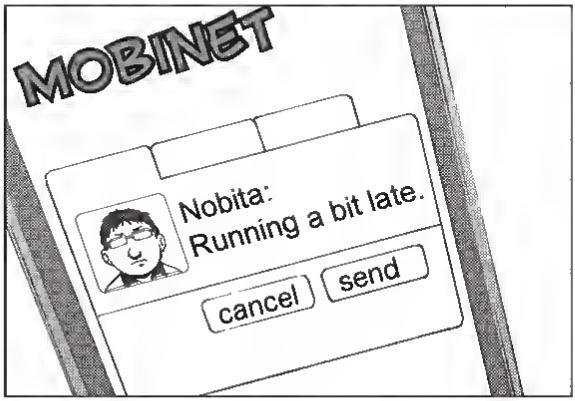

June 2, 10:20
S WARD PUBLIC LIBRARY TOKYO

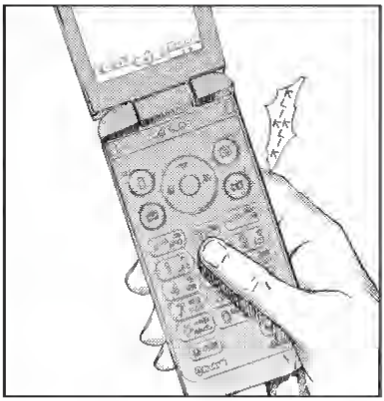


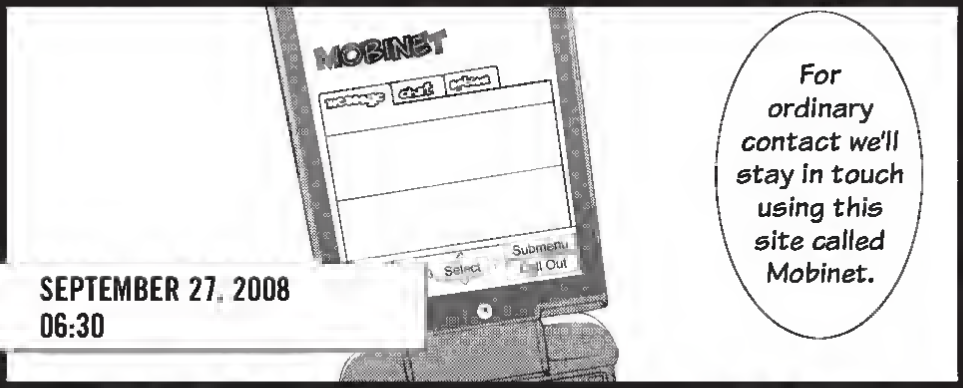

Shortest term would be three years...
6 months
3 years
6 years

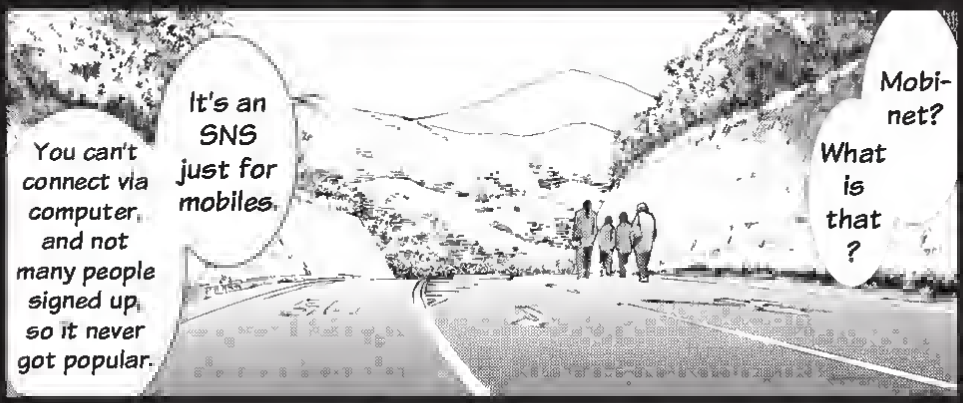

10 years
12 years
8 years
6 years
10 years
8 years
5 years 6 months
10 years
6 years, 6 months
8 years
15 years
14 years
10 years.
12 years.
6 years.

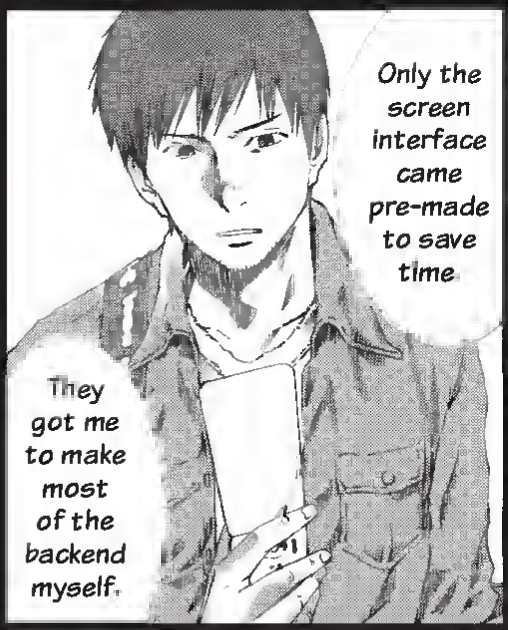
If I help them on this next one, it'll be way worse than that ...
Three years ...


MOBINET
Nobita:
Running a bit late.
cancel
send



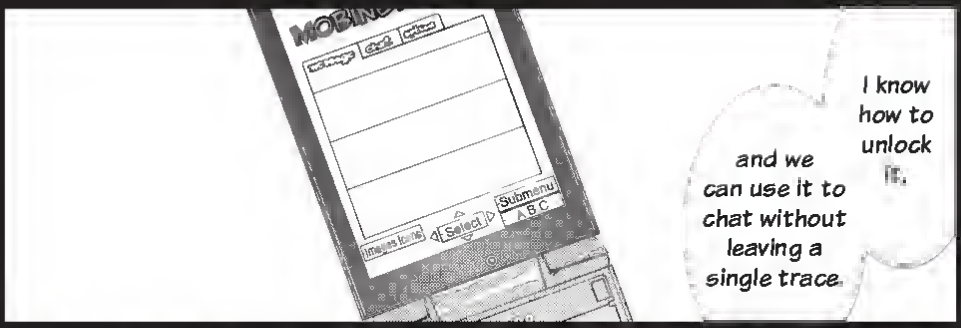

MOBINET
Select
Submenu
Cut Out
For ordinary contact we'll stay in touch using this site called Mobinet.
SEPTEMBER 27, 2008
06:30

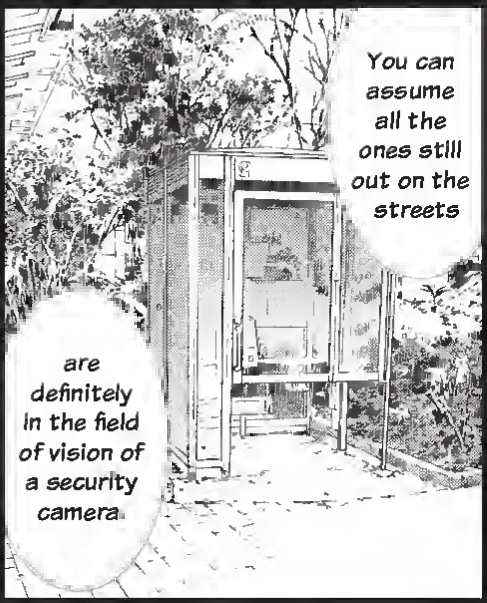

Mobi-net? What is that?
It's an SNS just for mobiles.
You can't connect via computer, and not many people signed up, so it never got popular.


Only the screen interface came pre-made to save time.
They got me to make most of the backend myself.

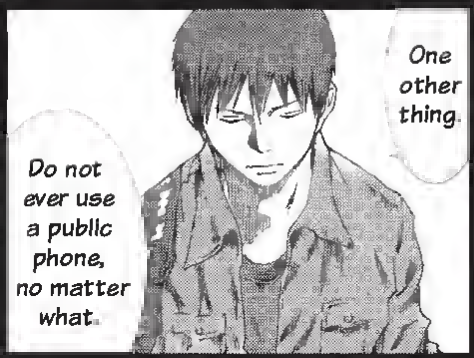
FUKUOKA
Then why're we using it?
...?

Well, in fact,
I built it.
You?


I know how to unlock it.
and we can use it to chat without leaving a single trace.

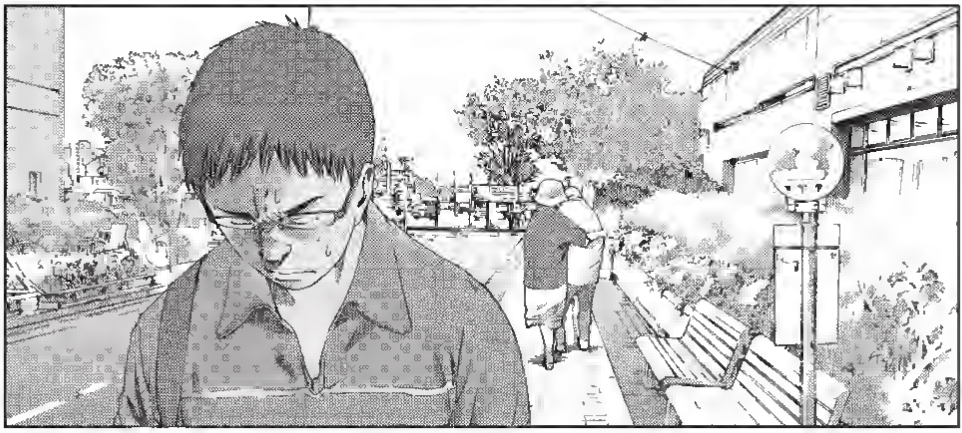

You can assume all the ones still out on the streets
are definitely in the field of vision of a security camera.

For real?
Wicked.


One other thing.
Do not ever use a public phone, no matter what.

The call record.
The content of the call.
Your appearance and voice.
All of that information will get turned over to the police.

I wasn't really acting of my own free will.
I...
コツ
THOK



I don't know about the other three,
but I can still make a fresh start, can't I?

ぐいっ

Yes.
Right
now...
if I do
it now,
I can
still
...

KREE
キー
EE
ー…
SOS
911
119
そのままダイヤルしてください。
PLEASE dial without coin/card
Hello ?
Is this the police ?
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
4

DEATH THREAT
Within 72 Hours
Uh...
It's about the death threat that's in the news right now.
Could I speak to whoever's in charge?
Yes ...
That's the one.
for the past three years.
...I've known the ones behind it

...
Yes.
STOP
I'll tell you every-thing.

PROPHECY
02 END

Metropolitan Police Department Anti Cyber Crimes Division!!

V S

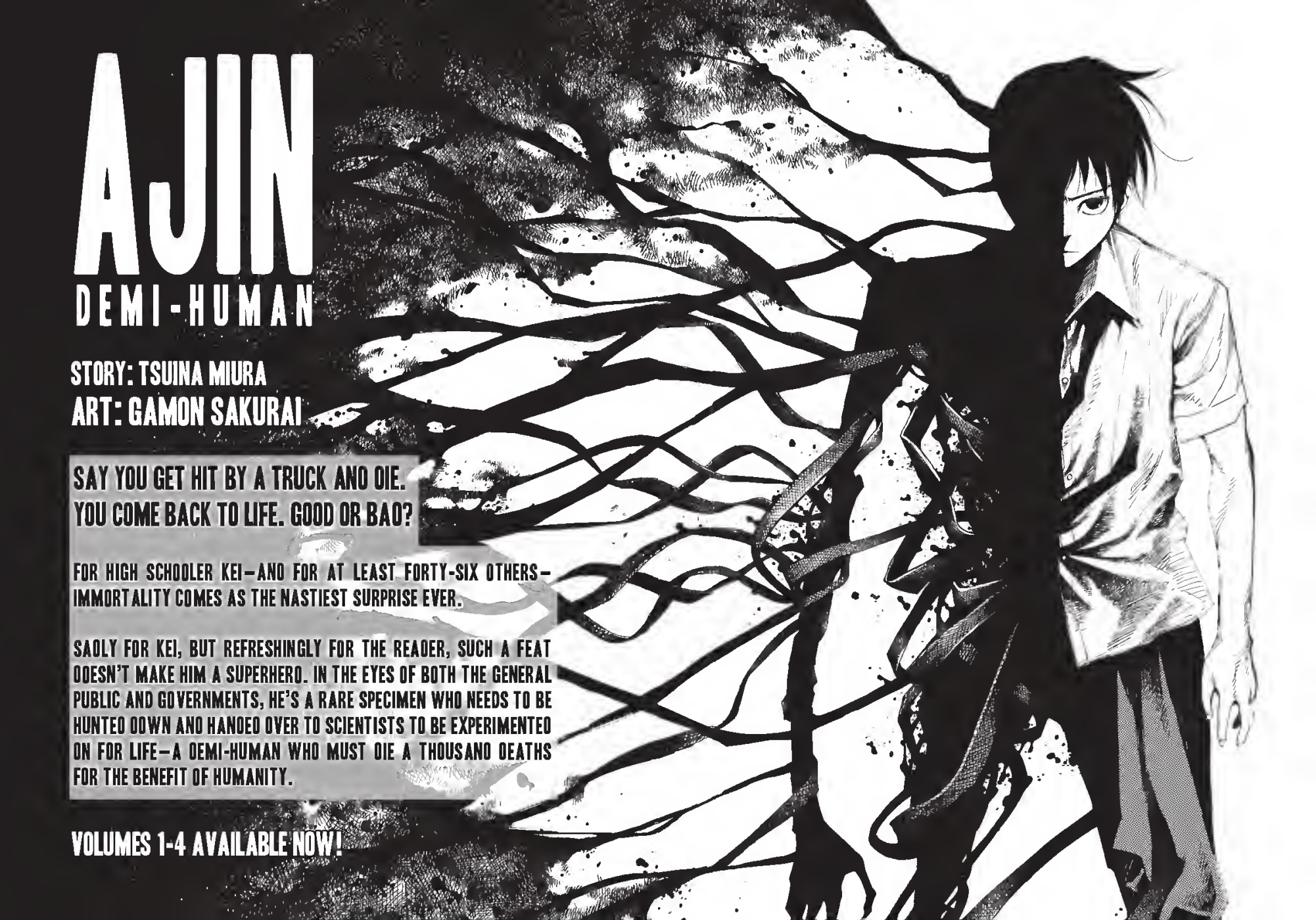
The terrorist Paperboy

PROPHECY

03 TETSUYA TSUTSUI

Paperboy has finally issued a death threat! As their actions escalate, what is their true aim?! As the Metropolitan Police Department's Anti Cyber Crimes Division's net closes around them, will betrayal from within completely tear apart and crush their conspiracy...?!

Final Volume Available Now!


AJIN
DEMI-HUMAN
STORY: TSUINA MIURA
ART: GAMON SAKURAI
SAY YOU GET HIT BY A TRUCK AND DIE. YOU COME BACK TO LIFE. GOOD OR BAD?
FOR HIGH SCHOOLER KEI—AND FOR AT LEAST FORTY-SIX OTHERS—IMMORTALITY COMES AS THE NASTIEST SURPRISE EVER.
SADLY FOR KEI, BUT REFRESHINGLY FOR THE READER, SUCH A FEAT DOESN'T MAKE HIM A SUPERHERO. IN THE EYES OF BOTH THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENTS, HE'S A RARE SPECIMEN WHO NEEDS TO BE HUNTED DOWN AND HANDED OVER TO SCIENTISTS TO BE EXPERIMENTED ON FOR LIFE—A DEMI-HUMAN WHO MUST DIE A THOUSAND DEATHS FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANITY.
VOLUMES 1-4 AVAILABLE NOW!

Prophecy, part 2

Translation: Kumar Sivasubramanian
Production: Grace Lu
Nicole Dochych
Anthony Quintessenza

Copyright © 2012 Tetsuya Tsutsui / Ki-oon
All rights reserved.
First published in France in 2013 by Ki-oon,
an imprint of AC Media Ltd.
English translation rights arranged through
Tuttle-Mori Agency, Inc.
English language version produced by Vertical, Inc.

Translation provided by Vertical, Inc., 2015
Published by Vertical Comics, an imprint of
Vertical, Inc., New York

This is a work of fiction.

eISBN: 978-1-942993-07-0

Vertical, Inc.
451 Park Avenue South
7th Floor
New York, NY 10016
www.vertical-inc.com

35%
Done 24:53 -2:45

As Paperboy starts to issue video warnings of crimes they plan to commit against ever-larger targets of internet outrage, Lieutenant Yoshino and the Anti Cyber Crimes Division attempts to get one step ahead of the newspaper-masked terror group. But even as they contend with the authorities, the greatest threat to Paperboy's master plan may come from a totally unexpected place—within...

"*Prophecy* is not a manga set in faraway Japan. Rather, it is a story taking place right now in cyberspace—and this ability to dissect what is going on in present-day society is at the heart of Tsutsui's importance as a manga artist." —*Nippon.com*

Published by Vertical Comics

www.vertical-inc.com